

If only...

I wish...

I'd rather...

Can it be in real life?



'If only I could have new high heels'.

'I wish I would meet Mr. Right'.

'I'd rather go to the seaside'.

Who is she? What is she famous for?



# First Conditional

If you meet Julia Roberts, what will you ask her?



# Second Conditional

If you met Julia Roberts, what would you ask her?



## Third Conditional

If you had met Julia Roberts,  
what would you have asked her?



## Second Conditional

If you met Julia Roberts,  
what would you ask her?

# First Conditional



"If I hurry, I'll see my brother before he leaves."

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IF YOU HIT THIS SIGN,  
YOU WILL HIT THAT BRIDGE





Who can you see?  
What are they doing?  
Read and listen to the conversation.  
Find the conditionals.  
Are there ever arguments about clothes in your family?  
What kind of clothes do you argue about?

In what situation do you argue?  
Can you explain the word 'scruffy'?

- Mum I wish you'd throw those old jeans out. They're so scruffy.
- Sam I like them. If I had more money, I'd buy some new ones. But I don't.
- Mum If you didn't buy so many computer games, you would have more money.
- Sam If only I could leave school and get a job.
- Mum Don't be silly. Anyway, I'd rather you didn't wear those jeans this evening. We're going to a very nice restaurant.
- Sam I'd rather stay in and watch TV.
- Mum No. It's your dad's birthday. We're all going out together.

## scruffy

adjective

UK /'skrʌf.i/ US /'skrʌf.i/

untidy and looking a little dirty :

- *They live in a scruffy part of town.*
- *a small, scruffy-looking man*

Complete these sentences and then check.



I wish you'd throw those old jeans out.

If I had more money, I'd buy some new ones.

If you didn't buy so many computer games, you would have more money.

If only I could leave school and get a job.

I'd rather you didn't wear those jeans this evening.

I'd rather stay in and watch TV.

### Second conditional

We use the second conditional to talk about an imaginary situation or event and its result.

We use the <sup>1</sup> past simple for the situation or event and <sup>2</sup> would + base form for the result.

How many examples of the second conditional are in the dialogue?



# What is the difference between these sentences?

If I lived in Italy, I wouldn't try to spend every holiday at the seaside.

We would be friends if Carol were a little more optimistic.

If I saw Gordon, I would tell him about it.

If I were you, I wouldn't behave like this.

What would you do if you were me?

## Second conditional

We use the second conditional to talk about situations that are unlikely or unreal. It can refer to the present or the future.

*If I had a billion dollars, I'd live on a desert island.*

We use the past simple in the **if** clause, and **would** + base form in the result clause.

### Conditional clause

If I had a billion dollars,  
(past simple)

### Result clause

I would buy a castle.  
(*would* + base form)

After **if** and **wish** we sometimes use **were** with **he** or **she**. Both **were** and **was** are correct. However, **were** is more appropriate in formal situations.

*If I were you, I'd give the money to charity.*

*If he were older, he'd understand what I'm saying.*

Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. If I didn't have to go to school, ...
2. I'd leave home if ...
3. If I could live anywhere in the world, ...
4. If I could drive, ...
5. If I had € 3.000 for a holiday, ...
6. If I found € 100 in the street, ...
7. I'd never tell anyone if ...
8. If I fell out with my best friend, ...



**1** Complete the second conditional sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1 I **would stop** seeing my boyfriend if he **didn't get on** with my friends.

2 If my girlfriend **went out** with another boy, I **would split up** with her.

3 If I **fell out** with my boyfriend, I **would** **try** to make up.

4 I **wouldn't chat up** a girl if I **didn't fancy** her.

5 If I **wasn't** so shy, I **would ask** her out.

6 I **would try** Internet dating if I **had** a computer at home.

7 I **wouldn't go out** with my best friend's brother if he **asked** me.



Choose the correct answer.

- 1 If he ~~would ask~~ / asked her out, she would say yes.
- 2 If we spoke / ~~would speak~~ Spanish, I would go on holiday to Spain.
- 3 I would be / ~~was~~ very rich if I won the lottery.
- 4 If you said / ~~would say~~ sorry, she would make up with you.
- 5 He would ask you out if you ~~would chat~~ / chatted him up.
- 6 If they worked harder, they ~~earned~~ / would earn more money.

Rewrite the two sentences as one second conditional sentence.

1 You drink a lot of coffee. You sleep badly.

If you didn't drink a lot of coffee, you wouldn't sleep badly.

2 You don't put your clothes away. Your room is a mess.

**If you put your clothes away, your room wouldn't be a mess.**

3 You don't eat vegetables. You aren't healthy.

**If you ate vegetables, you'd be healthy.**

4 You're always with your friends. You don't have time for me.

**If you weren't always with your friends, you'd have time for me.**

5 You don't study. You don't pass your exams.

**If you studied, you'd pass your exams.**

6 You never save any money. We can't go on holiday.

**If you saved some money, we could go on holiday.**

7 You go to bed late. You're tired.

**If you didn't go to bed late, you wouldn't be tired.**

***I wish, If only, I'd rather***

- 1 We use *I wish ...* or *If only ...* with the past simple to say that we really want a situation to be different:  
*I wish it was Saturday. If only I had more money.*
- 2 We use *I wish ...* or *If only ...* with *would* + base form to say that we really want somebody's (or something's) behaviour to be different:  
*I wish he wouldn't speak so loudly. I wish it would snow.*
- 3 We use *I'd rather* with a base form to express a preference:  
*'Do you want a cup of tea?' 'I'd rather have a coffee.'*
- 4 We use *I'd rather* with the past simple to say that we really want somebody's (or something's) behaviour to be different:  
*I'd rather you didn't phone me after 10 p.m.*

Complete the sentences with *I wish* (or *If only*) and *I'd rather*.

- 1 I don't like living in the city. **I'd rather** live in the country.
- 2 I hate wet weather. **I wish/If only** it would stop raining.
- 3 I'll give you a lift to town if you want, but **I'd rather** you took the bus.
- 4 I hate camping. **I'd rather** stay in a hotel than in a tent.
- 5 **I wish/If only** my sister wouldn't keep following me around.
- 6 I can't afford those trainers. **I wish/If only** they were less expensive!



Write sentences with *I'd rather* to say you want these people's behaviour to be different. Use the words in brackets.

1 John wants to phone me after 10 p.m. (earlier)

*I'd rather John phoned me earlier.*

2 I'd rather Sarah wore skirts.

3 I'd rather my brother used his own bike.

4 I'd rather you didn't spend money.

5 I'd rather Kate went to university.

## Complete the sentences about imaginary situations.

1 I haven't got a lot of money.

If only I had a lot of money.

2 Please don't open the window.

I'd rather **you didn't** open the window.

3 Please don't keep interrupting.

I'd rather **you didn't keep** interrupting.

4 I live in a small village.

If only **I lived** in a big city.

5 I can't find my mobile phone!

I wish I **could find** my mobile phone!

6 We can't go to the beach because of the weather.

If only **it wasn't** raining.

7 I can't stand it when you borrow things without asking.

I wish **you didn't** things without asking.

**you wouldn't borrow**



**SPEAKING** Work in pairs.

**Student A:** Make comments using *I wish ...* and the ideas below or your own ideas.

**Student B:** Ask why.

**Student A:** Say how life would be different.

Swap roles halfway through the exercise.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 I / live / in the mountains              | 4 it / be / my birthday                       |
| 2 I / have / eight brothers<br>and sisters | 5 I / can / draw really well                  |
| 3 I / have / a new<br>smartphone           | 6 I / own / a private jet                     |
|  | 7 I / not have to / go to<br>school on Friday |

If I lived in  
the mountains,  
I could go  
skiing every  
day in the  
winter.

Really?  
Why?



Complete Jenny's thoughts with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

~~ask~~ ~~be~~ ~~can~~ ~~fancy~~ ~~get on~~ ~~go out~~ ~~have~~ ~~know~~  
~~live~~ ~~look~~

fancied

knew

'd go out

'd ask

live

'd be

'I wish I 'had a boyfriend. I quite like James. If only he  
2 \_\_\_\_\_ me. The problem is, I've never spoken to him.  
If he 3 \_\_\_\_\_ me better, I'm sure he'd like me. I  
4 \_\_\_\_\_ with him if he asked me. We 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
go to the cinema together or hang out in the park. If we spent  
some time together, I'm sure we 6 \_\_\_\_\_ really well.  
He's really good-looking. If only he 7 \_\_\_\_\_ at me. I  
wish he 8 \_\_\_\_\_ me to marry him. I'd rather  
9 \_\_\_\_\_ with him than with my parents. I'm sure  
we 10 \_\_\_\_\_ very happy together!'

could

'd get on

'd look







Think about things you'd like to change in your life  
Write five sentences using I wish, If only and I'd rather.

## CHALLENGE CONSIDERED

