

Wish and If Only Structures – Worksheet 2 – ANSWERS

Exercise 1: Conversation (Using "Wish" and "If Only") – Answers

- ◆ **Liam:** I can't believe I failed my driving test!
 - ◆ **Emma:** Oh no! You were so nervous. If only you **had relaxed** more.
 - ◆ **Liam:** I know. And I wish I **had not forgotten** to check my mirrors.
 - ◆ **Emma:** That's frustrating. If only the examiner **had not been** so strict!
 - ◆ **Liam:** Yeah. I also wish the weather **had been** better. The rain made it even harder.
 - ◆ **Emma:** Well, you can try again. I just wish the test **was not** so expensive.
 - ◆ **Liam:** You're right. I wish I **had** more money so I could take more lessons.
 - ◆ **Emma:** Don't worry! If only you **had practiced** more, I'm sure you'll pass next time.
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Exercise 2: Diary Entry (Writing Task - "Wish" and "If Only") – Answers

Diary Entry – A Regretful Day

Today was a disaster! Everything went wrong, and I feel terrible about it.

First, I woke up late because I forgot to set my alarm. **If only I had woken up earlier, I wouldn't have missed my bus.** Then, I got to work late, and my boss was really angry. **I wish I hadn't been so careless with my time.**

At lunch, I spilled coffee all over my shirt. **If only I had been more careful!** My colleague laughed, and it really annoyed me. **I wish people wouldn't make fun of me when I make mistakes.**

Finally, I had an argument with my best friend. **I wish I hadn't said those hurtful things.** Now, I don't know if she'll ever forgive me.

I just wish today **had been** different. Tomorrow, I'll try to do better!

Explanation:

- **"Wish" + past perfect** → Regret about something in the past (*I wish I had not said that.*)
 - **"If only" + past perfect** → A strong regret about a past event (*If only I had been more careful!*)
 - **"Wish" + would + verb** → Frustration about people's actions (*I wish people would not make fun of me.*)
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Key Takeaways for Students

- ✓ **"Wish" + past simple** → Used for **present** situations we want to change (*I wish I had a bigger house.*)
- ✓ **"Wish" + past perfect** → Used for **past regrets** (*I wish I had studied harder.*)
- ✓ **"Wish" + would + verb** → Used for **annoying habits** or things we want to change (*I wish you wouldn't interrupt me.*)
- ✓ **"If only" is stronger than "wish"** → Used to express deep regret or hypothetical situations.
- ✓ **If only + past perfect** → Regret about the past (*If only I had woken up earlier!*)
- ✓ **If only + past simple** → Wishing for a different present reality (*If only I were taller!*)
- ✓ **If only + would + verb** → Expressing frustration about behavior (*If only you would listen!*)