The Third Conditional

We make the third conditional by using the **past perfect** after 'if' and then 'would have' and the **past participle** in the second part of the sentence:

if + past perfect, ...would + have + past participle

It talks about the past. It's used to describe a situation that didn't happen, and to imagine the result of this situation.

If she **had studied**, she **would have passed** the exam (but, really we know she didn't study and so she didn't pass)
If I **hadn't eaten** so much, I **wouldn't have felt** sick (but I did eat a lot, and so I did feel sick).

Wish

Wishes about the present and future

1. wish + past simple is used to express that we want a situation in the present (or future) to be different.

   - **I wish I spoke** Italian. *(I don't speak Italian)*
   - **I wish I had** a big car. *(I don't have a big car)*
   - **I wish I were** on a beach. *(I'm in the office)*
   - **I wish it were** the weekend. *(It's only Wednesday)*

2. wish + past continuous is used to express that we want to be doing a different action in the present (or future).

   - **I wish I were lying** on a beach now. *(I'm sitting in the office)*
   - **I wish it weren't raining**. *(It is raining)*
   - **I wish you weren't leaving** tomorrow. *(You are leaving tomorrow)*

Note:

In **Standard English** we use "I wish I *were*…" and "I wish it *were*…". However, "I wish I *was*…" and "I wish it *was*" are in common usage. Using this form, the examples above would be:

- I wish I was on a beach.
- I wish it was the weekend.
- I wish I was lying on a beach now.
- I wish it wasn't raining.

Wishes about the past

wish + past perfect is used to express a regret, or that we want a situation in the past to be different.

- **I wish I hadn't eaten** so much. *(I ate a lot)*
- **I wish they'd come** on holiday with us. *(They didn't come on holiday)*
- **I wish I had studied** harder at school. *(I was lazy at school)*

Wish + would

wish + would + bare infinitive is used to express impatience, annoyance or dissatisfaction with a present action.

- I **wish** you **would stop** smoking.

  You are smoking at the moment and it is annoying me.

- I **wish** it **would stop** raining.

  I'm impatient because it is raining and I want to go outside.

- I **wish** she'**d be** quiet.

  I am annoyed because she is speaking.

Wish and hope

To express that you want something to happen in the future (not wanting a situation to be different, and not implying impatience or annoyance) *hope* is used instead of *wish*.

- I **hope** it's sunny tomorrow.

  "I wish it was sunny tomorrow" is not correct.

- I **hope** she passes her exam next week.

  "I wish she were passing her exam next week" is not correct.

- I **hope** the plane doesn't crash tomorrow.

  "I wish the plane wouldn't crash tomorrow" is not correct.

Wish and want

wish + infinitive or *wish + object + infinitive* is used to mean *want* in a formal situation.

- I **wish to leave** now. (+ infinitive)
- I **wish to speak** to your supervisor please. (+ infinitive)
- I **do not wish my name to appear** on the list. (+ object + infinitive)

Wish in fixed expressions

I/we wish you… is used in fixed expressions.

- **I wish you** a happy birthday.
- **We wish you** good luck in your new job.