

WISH & IF ONLY



Sentences starting with "I wish" or "If only" express wishes or regret. If only is slightly more formal and gives the wish or regret more emphasis.

If only I hadn't eaten so much soup. I feel awful!
(strong regret)

I wish / If only + past simple

This structure is used to say that we would like something to be different from what it is in the present. It can also be used with people.

If only my wife earned more money.

I wish John was / were here.

I wish / If only + past perfect

This structure is used to express regrets about the past / a wish that something in the past had happened differently. It can be used with people:

If only you had told me sooner.

I wish they had gone by train.

BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS A BUSINESS PARTNER



He's a **tough negotiator** ['tʌf nɪ'gəʊʃɪeɪtə] – tvrdý vyjednávač

She can be **quite stubborn and inflexible** [kwɑɪt 'stʌbən and ɪn'fleksɪbl] – tvrdohlavý

He's a **cold fish**. He never shows his feelings. ['kəʊld fɪʃ] – studený čumák

She may seem a bit naive at times, but she's got a lot of **common sense**. ['kɒmən sens] – selský rozum

He's **self-assured and assertive**. He's used to getting his way. [self ə'ʃʊəd ænd ə'sɜːtɪv] – sebevědomý a průbojný

She seems **honest and trustworthy**. ['ɒnɪst ænd 'trʌst,wɜːðɪ] – důvěryhodný, spolehlivý

He's a **decent guy**. He's always treated us fairly. ['diːsənt gaɪ] – slušný

QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE



Fill in the the verb in the correct tense:

1. You didn't tell me the truth. I wish you _____ (tell) me the truth.
2. I'm not famous. I wish I _____ (be) famous.
3. She smokes too much. If only she _____ (smoke) so much.
4. He wasn't able to come to the Christmas party. If only he _____ (be able to) come to the Christmas party.

KEY: 1. had told, 2. was/were, 3. didn't smoke, 4. had been able to