## Unreal Past

**RULE#1 =>** WISH + PAST SIMPLE is used to express regrets or wishes about the present (or future)

**She wishes she had a holiday now.**

**RULE#2 =>** WISH + PAST CONTINUOUS is used to express that we want to be doing a different action in the present (or future).

**I wish she wasn't leaving right now.**

**RULE#3 =>** IF ONLY + PAST PERFECT is used to express regrets or wishes about the past.

**If only George hadn't sold all these old CD's last year.**

**RULE#4 =>** WISH + COULD = regret in the present concerning lack of ability in the future.

**I wish Graham could see the children now.**

**RULE#5 =>** WISH + WOULD is used to express annoyance, impatience or dissatisfaction with a present action.

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

## If

**If you came to the party you might get to meet Sue**. I know you want to meet her.

If **I had the time I would take** you out to dinner. However, I am too busy.

## If only

We use **'if only'** for regrets. When we regret having done something. Look at these examples:

**If only I had taken** the job at the bank. I regret not taking the job.

**If only I were** more handsome.

## It's time

**By the way, it's time we had a chat** about your future in this company.

It's very late. **It's time he went** to bed.

**It's time you got a job** because I am sick and tired of paying for everything.

## Wish

**I wish we weren't** all going to lose our jobs.

**She wishes her husband would spend** more time with the family. As a result, she might get a divorce.

**I wish I didn't have** to give a speech tomorrow.

## <u>Would rather, would sooner</u>

**I'd rather you didn't go** to the party alone.

I don't want you here. **I'd sooner you left** the room.