

## THE SUBJUNCTIVE - EXERCISES

### I. Choose between *hope* and *wish* in each sentence:

1. I hope / wish I'll see you again soon.
2. I hope / wish the weather improves soon.
3. I hope / wish I knew the answer.
4. I hope / wish you didn't have to go.
5. I hope / wish you'd stop shouting so much.
6. I hope / wish nothing goes wrong.
7. I hope / wish it would stop raining.
8. I hope / wish you can come to my party.
9. I hope / wish you don't mind.
10. I hope / wish we could meet next week.

### II. Put each verb in brackets into a suitable tense:

1. I would say it was time you \_\_\_\_\_ (**start**) working seriously.
2. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ (**not watch**) television while I'm reading.
3. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (**spend**) more time swimming last summer.
4. Helen is so bossy. She acts as if she \_\_\_\_\_ (**own**) the place.
5. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ (**not keep**) coming late to class.
6. Suppose a complete stranger \_\_\_\_\_ (**leave**) you a lot of money in their will!
7. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (**go**) to your party after all.
8. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ (**sit**) next to Susan, please.
9. The government demanded that the ambassador \_\_\_\_\_ (**be**) recalled.
10. You are lucky going to Italy. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (**go**) with you.

### III. Correct the error or errors in each sentence:

1. I wish I bought that old house.
2. I'd rather you don't eat all the bread.
3. It's time I go.
4. I wish I own a motorbike.
5. I wish we are not leaving in the morning.
6. Sue would rather reading than watching television.

7. Come what comes, I'll be on your side.
8. I hope it would stop raining.
9. I'd prefer you didn't wait.
10. I wish I didn't listen to you before.

### IV. Complete each sentence with a suitable word or phrase:

1. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ making so much noise late at night!
2. I'd rather the children \_\_\_\_\_ on the television without permission.
3. Suppose I \_\_\_\_\_ half the money I owe you. Would that satisfy you?
4. I hope you \_\_\_\_\_ get into trouble on my account.
5. This is an awful hotel. I wish we \_\_\_\_\_ to the Grand instead.
6. It is absolutely \_\_\_\_\_ you contact our head office in advance.
7. I think it's high time we \_\_\_\_\_ locking all the windows at night.
8. Would you rather I \_\_\_\_\_ the lunch, if you feel tired?
9. I wish my car \_\_\_\_\_ as fast as yours.
10. I'd prefer you \_\_\_\_\_ smoke in here, if you don't mind.

### V. Complete each sentence with one word:

1. It's \_\_\_\_\_ time you learned to look after yourself.
2. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ try listening to me just for once!
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ rather not go by bus, if possible.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ that as it may, it doesn't alter the seriousness of the problem.
5. I wish Carol \_\_\_\_\_ be here to see you all.
6. We both wish you \_\_\_\_\_ staying longer.
7. You \_\_\_\_\_ as if you had played in the match instead of watching it!
8. \_\_\_\_\_ they offered you the job of managing director!
9. I really wish we \_\_\_\_\_ married.
10. I \_\_\_\_\_ you didn't mind my phoning so late.

**VI. Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals and keeping the meaning:**

1. Do you ever regret not going to university? WISH
2. I should be really leaving. TIME
3. I'd rather have beer than wine. PREFER
4. Jack doesn't know all the answers, though he pretends to. ACTS
5. I'd love to be able to go with you to the opera. WISH
6. I wish I hadn't sold that old painting. PITY
7. It would be better if you didn't stay long. RATHER
8. The management insisted on our wearing dark suits. WEAR
9. Why do you have to complain all the time? WISH
10. I don't want to go to the meeting. RATHER

**VII. Rewrite the sentences beginning as shown, so that the meaning stays the same:**

1. It would be nice to be able to fly. **I wish \_\_\_\_\_.**
2. I wish I hadn't heard that! **I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. Everyone wished they had listened more carefully to the lecture. **Everyone regretted \_\_\_\_\_.**
4. Unfortunately, I've got to work late tonight. **I wish \_\_\_\_\_.**
5. Is it better for me to leave? **Would you \_\_\_\_\_.**
6. It's a pity I can't borrow your car. **I wish you would \_\_\_\_\_.**
7. We really must discuss this again. **It's important that \_\_\_\_\_.**
8. It's a pity you were driving so fast. **I wish you \_\_\_\_\_.**
9. May the President live a long time! **Long \_\_\_\_\_.**
10. Jack prefers me not to say anything about the missing money. **Jack would rather \_\_\_\_\_.**

**VIII. Complete each sentence with a suitable word or phrase:**

1. It's high time all of us \_\_\_\_\_ in bed.
2. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ slowly and more carefully.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ may, I will always be on your side!
4. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ the lecture instead of Professor Brown!
5. Don't rush your decision. I'd rather you \_\_\_\_\_ over.
6. The authorities \_\_\_\_\_ the money be paid at once.
7. I wish I could \_\_\_\_\_ at your party, but I'm afraid I was busy.
8. Mary sometimes acts as if she \_\_\_\_\_ either way what happened.
9. What \_\_\_\_\_ I did about that problem we discussed?
10. It's time I \_\_\_\_\_ my way.

**IX. Complete the following sentences so that the meaning stays the same:**

1. a) He knows he shouldn't have said those terrible things. **He regrets \_\_\_\_\_.**  
b) We are sorry that your job application has not been successful. **We regret to \_\_\_\_\_.**
2. a) I have to admit I'm a chain smoker. **I wish \_\_\_\_\_.**  
b) It's a pity you aren't teaching next year. **We wish \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. a) I hope it rains soon, everything is so dry. **I wish \_\_\_\_\_.**  
b) She's always phoning me at work when I'm busy. **I wish \_\_\_\_\_.**
4. They should have let us know they were moving house. **I wish \_\_\_\_\_.**
5. They are sorry they did not buy the land. **They wished \_\_\_\_\_.**
6. I can't stand the way he falls asleep in the middle of dinner. **If only \_\_\_\_\_.**
7. Why didn't I take up his offer of a job! **If only \_\_\_\_\_.**