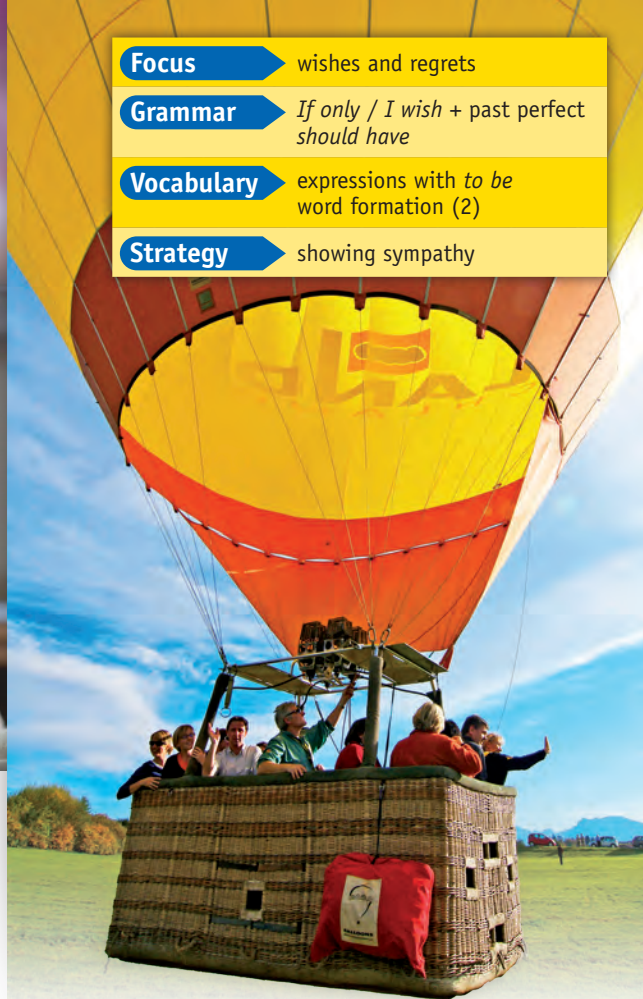


9

Past regrets

Focus	wishes and regrets
Grammar	<i>If only / I wish + past perfect should have</i>
Vocabulary	expressions with <i>to be</i> word formation (2)
Strategy	showing sympathy



1 Warm-up

a Discuss the pictures with your partner.

What can you see? How do these people feel?

b When was the last time you went to a party? Have you ever met anyone special at a party?

2 Conversation

a 2.17 Listen and read.

- Jung:** Hi Andrew. I'm back! Wow. You'll never believe what an amazing day I've had. You should have come with us.
- Andrew:** I know. I wish I hadn't had to visit my uncle. All we did was watch TV. Anyway, how was the balloon festival?
- Jung:** Great. Everyone was there – except you, of course. We had a barbecue and watched all the balloons taking off. They were huge! And then just as we were about to leave, guess what happened?
- Andrew:** I have no idea. It started raining?
- Jung:** No. The weather was perfect. Actually, this guy came over and asked if we wanted a ride in his balloon!
- Andrew:** Really? Wow. That's amazing. But it's expensive, isn't it?
- Jung:** No, it was free! He said the people he was waiting for had canceled, so he took *us* for a ride instead!
- Andrew:** No way! I don't believe you. You're making this up.
- Jung:** No, I'm not. I took some photos on my cell phone ... See?
- Andrew:** Woah! That's incredible. I wish you hadn't told me.
- Jung:** Yeah. You missed out big time.
- Andrew:** If only I'd been there.

b Practice the conversation with a partner.

2.18

Language box

You **should have** come with us.

If **only** I'd been there.

I **wish** you **hadn't** told me.

Grammar reference, p.110

Challenge!

Imagine Andrew calls his uncle. With your partner, role-play the conversation.

Andrew: *You know when I came to visit and we watched TV?*

Uncle: *Sure. Fun, wasn't it?*

Andrew: *Er, yeah. Well, some friends of mine went ...*

3 Vocabulary

a Complete each sentence using the correct form of an expression with *to be*.

be down to be into be out of be up to

- 1 I haven't seen you in a long time. What have you _____?
- 2 If only I'd known Mary _____ tennis, I'd have bought her a tennis racket.
- 3 We _____ milk. I'll have to buy some more.
- 4 We've almost run out of money. We _____ our last few dollars.



b Circle the expressions with *to be* in these sentences. Match each expression with a meaning.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 What's up with you? Why are you in such a bad mood? | a in favor of |
| 2 I'm all for recycling. It's very important. | b take (medication) |
| 3 I don't think Tim's up yet. He's not answering his phone. | c out of bed |
| 4 Peter is on pills for his allergy, you know. | d What's the matter? |

4 Exchange

a Before you listen, complete the conversation using a verb in the correct form. Work with a partner.

- A: I wish she ¹ _____ me that she loved me before I took the job in Spain.
B: I know. She ² _____ something.
A: If only I ³ _____, I wouldn't have accepted the job. I ⁴ _____ here.
B: I suppose you ⁵ _____ her to marry you. That's what she was waiting for.
A: Yeah. You're right. It's my fault.
B: Never mind. You can't change the past.

b  2.19 Listen and check. Then practice the conversation with your partner.

Strategy: Showing sympathy

a Match each regret with a response.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 If only I hadn't forgotten her phone number. | a Never mind. Don't blame yourself. It was his decision not to say anything. |
| 2 I wish I'd married her when I had the chance. | b Try not to let it get you down. I'm sure you'll remember it soon. |
| 3 If only he'd told me he was sick. | c It won't do any good to keep thinking about it. She's married to someone else now. |

b  2.20 Listen and check. Then practice the conversations with a partner.

c Underline the expressions you can use to show sympathy.

Communication activity

Student A, go to p.91

Student B, go to p.91

9 Past regrets

5 Language in action

a With a partner, look at the pictures (A–E) and talk about the mistakes Tom has made in his life. What does he wish he had/hadn't done? What should/shouldn't he have done?

He wishes he had(n't) ...

He should(n't) have ...

If only he had(n't) ...

If he had(n't) ..., he would(n't) have ...



b Tell your partner about ...

- something you regret doing when you were younger.
- something you wish you had done when you were younger.
- something you regret saying to someone.
- something you wish you had said to someone.

I wish I had(n't) ... / I should(n't) have ... / If only I had(n't) ...


Challenge!

Discuss with your partner what you think this saying means:

There's no use crying over spilled milk.

Do you agree?

6 Listening

a  2.22 Listen to Terri, from Australia, talk about some regrets in her life. Answer the questions.

- 1 What's her job?
- 2 How old is she?

b  2.22 Listen again and write T (true) or F (false) for each statement.

- 1 ___ She has a lot of regrets.
- 2 ___ She wishes she had studied more.
- 3 ___ She wishes she had found a better job.
- 4 ___ She regrets having children.
- 5 ___ She thinks she should have waited to have children.
- 6 ___ She wishes she had done more traveling.
- 7 ___ She thinks she should have saved more money.
- 8 ___ There are many things she would have done differently.



 Go to the Digibook to watch the video for this unit

7 Speaking

a Think about your past and complete these sentences. Then tell a partner, giving more information where possible.

I really wish I'd learned how to play the guitar at high school. If I had learned, I would have joined a band.

What do you regret?

- I really wish I'd learned how to
- If only I'd
- I should never have given up
- Sometimes I think I should have
- I wish I'd studied
- Sometimes I really regret
- If only my parents had
- I wish I'd been more
- (your idea)

b Make a group and share your ideas. Respond to your classmates' regrets.

I don't think you should have ... Try not to let it get you down.

Reading

Skill: Identifying reference

Regrets – I’ve had a few!

My name’s Jack and I want to tell you about something I regret. It happened over twenty years ago, but I still remember it as if it was yesterday. I must have been around five years old. It was a summer day and I was in a park playing with some other kids from the neighborhood. There was a boy there named Jeremy who I didn’t like very much, but I can’t remember why. Anyway, we were playing near a pond. The water was very dirty and it was full of weeds and slime. You can guess what I did, right? ... I waited until he was standing near the edge of the pond, and then I crept up behind him and gave him a good hard push in the back ... he went flying straight into the filthy, slimy water! His dad rushed over and pulled him out. Jeremy was crying and pointed at me, saying “It was him. He pushed me!” Of course, I denied it. My parents were there, but I insisted I was innocent and without any proof they took my side. The bad thing is that Jeremy’s parents and mine used to be good friends, but after that they never spoke to each other again. I should have told my parents the truth, but I didn’t. To this day, I still regret pushing that boy into the pond.



Comments

Ken Thomas says:

Great post, Jack. We all do things we regret, and not just when we’re young. Only last week at a big supermarket, the cashier gave me \$10 too much in change, and I didn’t say a word. I wish I’d returned the money at the time, because now it’s too late. I feel bad!

Jolene Lee says:

The only way to make amends is to put things right. Find Jeremy and ask for his forgiveness. Tell your parents the truth. Do this, and you’ll feel much better, trust me!

Luis Alonso says:

Regrets are good because we learn from them. You shouldn’t have lied, but the fact you feel bad means you learned that telling the truth is the best policy.

Tina Fullerton says:

It’s not just the things you do that can be a source of regret, but the things you *don’t* do. There was this really cute guy in high school who I never asked out. I wish I had told him how I felt at the time. He’s married now.

Joon Kim says:

Life’s too short for regrets. Accept what you have done, learn from it if you can, and move on. Keep positive!

 **2.23** Read the blog and the comments. Then find these phrases.

Who or what do the words in *italics* refer to?


- 1 There was a boy *there* named Jeremy
- 2 I crept up behind *him*
- 3 I denied *it*
- 4 *they* took my side
- 5 after that *they* never spoke to each other
- 6 now *it’s* too late
- 7 Do *this*, and you’ll feel much better.
- 8 I wish I had told *him* how I felt.

Challenge!


Which opinions expressed in the comments do you agree with? What do you think Jack should do? Tell a partner.

Listening

Skill: Listening for the main idea

- a**  **2.24** Listen to four people talk about past regrets. Write the number of each regret (1–4) next to the correct person.

- 1 finding something and keeping it
- 2 saying something unkind to a partner
- 3 causing an accident
- 4 cheating on an exam

- b**  **2.24** Listen again and write down the words and phrases that helped you decide.



Vanessa ☐



Steve ☐



Leah ☐



Miguel ☐

Vocabulary Word formation (2)

- a** Complete the chart.

Adverb	Noun	Verb
correctly		regret
		apologize
predictably		
	help	
	sympathy	

Challenge!

Look at the words in the chart. With your partner, mark the stress on each word.

- b** With a partner, add more words to the chart.

Study guide

Writing about a regret

- 1 Think of something you regret.
giving up baseball after high school
- 2 Say why you regret this.
I liked it, my friends played it
- 3 Decide what language you can use.
If only ... / I wish I hadn't ... / I should have ...

Writing

Write about something you regret.
Look at the Study guide to help you.

*I wish I hadn't given up baseball after high school.
I used to like it because ...*