

# 5B

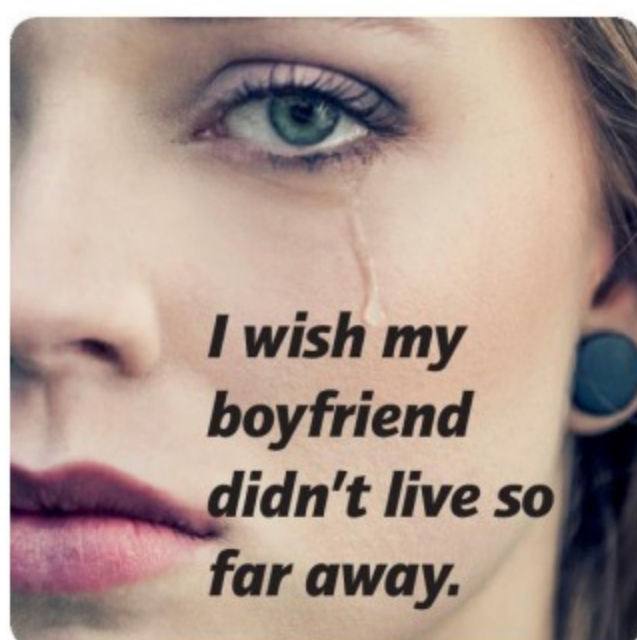
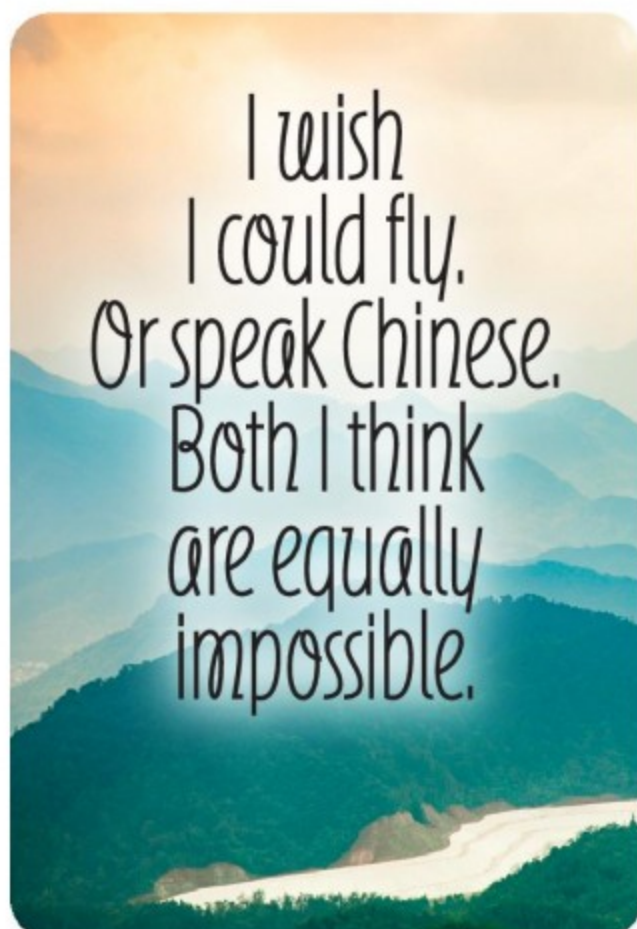
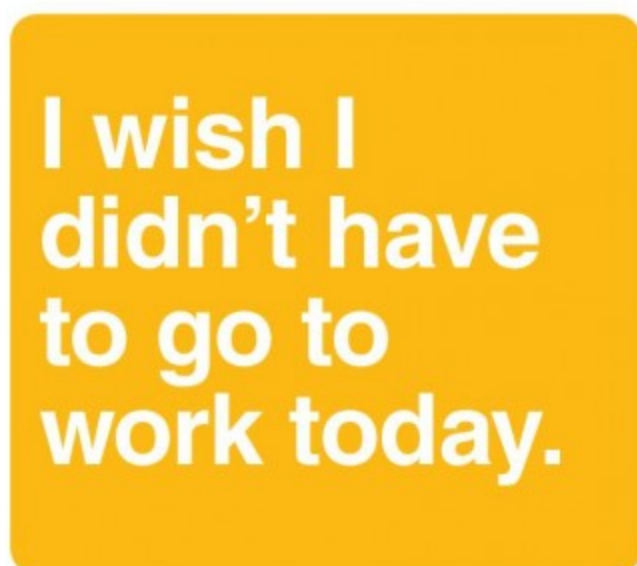
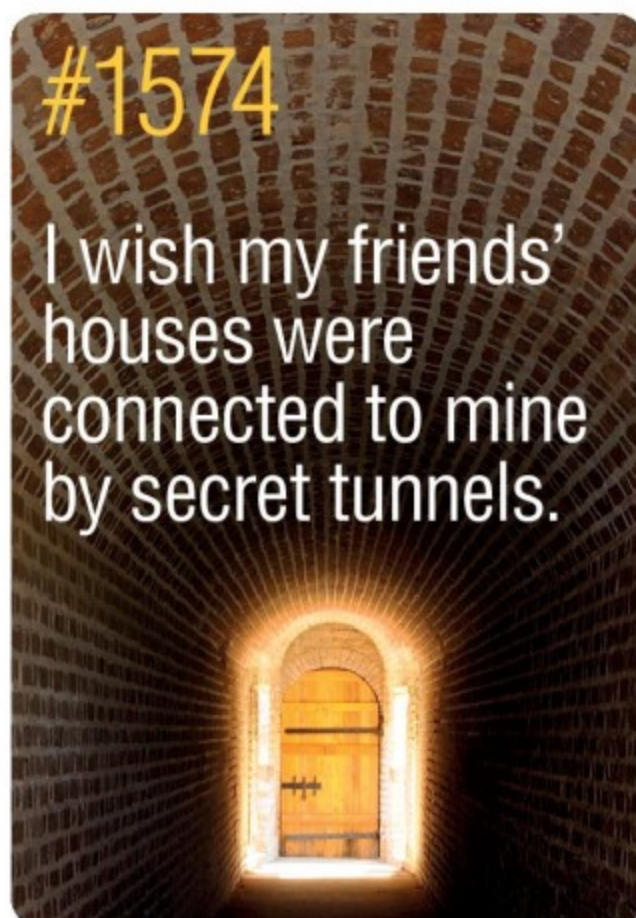
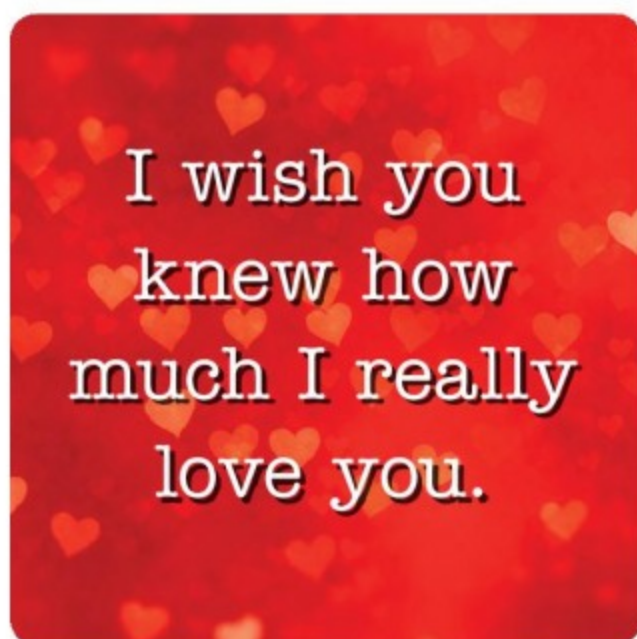
## Wish you were here

Don't wish it were easier;  
wish you were better.  
Jim Rohn, US businessman

**G** wish for present / future, wish for past regrets **V** expressing feelings with verbs or -ed / -ing adjectives **P** sentence rhythm and intonation

### 1 GRAMMAR wish for the present / future

a Look at some posts on a Pinterest board. Do you ever wish any of these things? Which ones?



b Now look at a WhatsApp group where friends have shared things that annoy them. Tick (✓) the things that annoy you, too.

**So annoying!**  
You, Tony, Sue, Georgia, Ronnie,...

I'm just back from the cinema – couldn't enjoy the film. I wish they would ban people from eating in the cinema. Some people just can't last for two hours without eating or drinking something. Grrr. 08.58 ✓

**Tony**  
I wish football commentators would stop shouting 'Gooooal' in that ridiculous way. If we're watching, we can see that it's a goal, and if we're not watching, it's because we don't care. 08.58

**Sue**  
I wish people wouldn't put their bags on seats to try and stop people sitting next to them. 09.17

**Georgia**  
I wish my boyfriend wouldn't fall asleep every time I want to talk to him. 10.03

**Ronnie**  
I wish my son would occasionally remember to fill up with petrol when he borrows my car. 15.11

**Josie**  
I wish people in call centres wouldn't use my first name as if we were old friends. 15.47

**Harry**  
I wish my family would take their tissues out of their pockets before they put their clothes in the washing machine. 16.08

**Ella**  
I wish people wouldn't ask me 'What are you doing?' when it's completely obvious what I'm doing. 17.16

**Jon**  
I wish people wouldn't leave supermarket trolleys in the car park, just because they can't be bothered to take them back. 18.08

c Compare the things you've ticked with a partner. Which are your top three, and why?

### Expressing annoyance

It really annoys me when...	people eat crisps in the cinema.
It's so annoying when...	
It drives me mad when...	

d Compare the Pinterest posts in **a** and the messages in **b**. Then complete the rules with *would / wouldn't* + infinitive or past simple.

- 1 We use *wish* + person + \_\_\_\_\_ to talk about things you would like to be different in the present / future (but which are impossible or unlikely).
- 2 We use *wish* + person + \_\_\_\_\_ to talk about things we want to happen or stop happening because they annoy us.

e **G** p.141 **Grammar Bank 5B** *wish* for present / future

f Write two more things that annoy you and that you would like people to change, and two things that you would like to be different about yourself or your life. Use *I wish* + *would / wouldn't* and *I wish* + past simple.

g In pairs or small groups, compare what you've written. Did anyone come up with the same things?

## 2 VOCABULARY & SPEAKING expressing feelings with verbs or *-ed / -ing* adjectives

### Ways of talking about how we feel

We can talk about how we feel in three different ways:

- 1 by using a **verb** (e.g. *annoy*)  
*People who eat in the cinema really annoy me.*
- 2 by using an **-ing adjective** (e.g. *annoying*)  
*People who eat in the cinema are really annoying.*
- 3 by using an **-ed adjective** (e.g. *annoyed*)  
*I get really annoyed when people eat in the cinema.*

a Complete the sentences with the correct form of the word in **bold**.

- 1 It really \_\_\_\_\_ me when people drive close behind me. **infuriate**
- 2 I get very \_\_\_\_\_ when something goes wrong with my internet connection and I don't know how to fix it. **frustrate**
- 3 It's so \_\_\_\_\_ when I can't remember someone's name, but they can remember mine. **embarrass**
- 4 I used to love shopping in the sales, but now I find it \_\_\_\_\_. After an hour, I just want to go home. **exhaust**
- 5 I'm often \_\_\_\_\_ with my birthday presents. My expectations are obviously too high! **disappoint**
- 6 It \_\_\_\_\_ me that some people still don't do their banking online. **amaze**
- 7 I find speaking in public absolutely \_\_\_\_\_. I hate doing it. **terrify**
- 8 I've often been \_\_\_\_\_ by reading about how some successful people have overcome difficulties. **inspire**
- 9 I never find instructions for electronic devices helpful – in fact, usually they just \_\_\_\_\_ me. **confuse**
- 10 When I travel, I'm always \_\_\_\_\_ if I manage to communicate something in a foreign language. **thrill**

b **5.19** Listen and check. Then with a partner, say if the sentences are true for you or not. Give examples or reasons.

### Feelings adjectives that have an *-ed* form but not an *-ing* form

A few *-ed* adjectives describing feelings don't have an *-ing* form, e.g. *impressed* – *impressive*  
**NOT** *impressing*

c Complete the sentences below with a form of the adjective in **bold**.

- 1 We are extremely **impressed** by your CV. Your CV is extremely *impressive*.
- 2 I get very **stressed** at work. My job is very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 I was really **scared** during the film. The ending was especially \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 I was **delighted** to meet Jane. She really is a \_\_\_\_\_ person.
- 5 I was really **offended** by what you said. What you said was really \_\_\_\_\_.

d In pairs, choose three squares and think about what you are going to say. Then talk to a partner.

an embarrassing mistake you once made	something that makes you feel depressed
a film or a book that you found really disappointing	something that really annoys you when you're shopping
something that you find frustrating about learning English	something that really stresses you in your daily life
someone who inspires you	some physical activity that you did that left you absolutely exhausted

*I'm going to tell you about an embarrassing mistake I once made. I was emailing a colleague...*

### 3 READING & SPEAKING

- a You are going to read an article about regrets. Which three areas of life do you think people tend to have the most regrets about? Choose from the list below.

career education family health love money travel

- b Read the article once and check. How did the writer change someone's life?

# Regrets

Recently, I helped my son move into his first-year room at university in Chicago and we discussed his hopes and plans for the next three years. That evening, I found myself thinking about how to help him make decisions he would never regret. I went to Twitter and typed, 'What is your biggest regret?' The response was huge and devastatingly honest. I had asked a question that, surprisingly, a lot of people really wanted to answer.

I loved the light-hearted responses...

'Not flying on Concorde to New York with Lionel Richie. He wanted to take me for dinner. I was working. #idiot'

But very few of them were like that. What emerged is that real regrets are not about bad things happening to you. They are about bad choices – a deep sorrow, or anger at yourself for something you did, or something you failed to do.

Most of the replies divided into different categories. Education was high up the list – there were many more regrets to do with school and college than I had expected.

'Never going to university. Left me disadvantaged all my life. Never lived up to my potential.'

1

2

Career-choice regrets made me realize a pattern was developing: regret seems most often to be about fear. Fear of doing the wrong thing, which then leads to an unfulfilled life.

'Not following my dream to work in radio.'

3

4

And then, perhaps less surprising, there was love: a few tweets from people regretting that they had declared their love and ended up having their heart broken, but many, many more regretting not being brave – regretting having been afraid. There's definitely a lesson in there: while there's always the possibility of rejection, it's better than the regret of not having tried.

'Not telling someone I loved them. 20 years too late now.'

5

It was encouraging that right alongside the people who regretted a life lived in fear were others who had made a change who were now regretting the time it had taken to find their solution.

'Worrying too much about what other people thought of me.'

6

Intriguingly, of all the replies, only two people mentioned money – one regretting a flat they hadn't bought, one regretting a sale.

Regret seems most often to be about fear.

My favourite of all the replies was from @dorey1414. She tweeted me this:

'I'm 54, no friends, or family, only 18 Twitter followers, but I have everything I need. Biggest regret – not listening at school.'

At last, here was one tiny area where I could be useful! I retweeted her words and asked Twitter if they could help. Ten minutes later, her follower count had gone up to 24. By the morning, it was 360. She now has more than 900 and is massively excited about it, starting enthusiastic conversations with dozens of her new followers. Having left school before her exams and worked for 38 years in a job she doesn't enjoy, she now has a chance to change her life.

Before I flew home from Chicago, I texted my son with this advice: 'Take risks – they may go wrong but it's better than regretting not having tried. And ring your mother.'

- c Read the article again. Complete 1–6 with tweets A–F. What kinds of words are left out in some of the tweets?

A	'Being scared all the time. Moved to France – still scary but food and life is good!'
B	'Listening to my dad when he said my voice was too weak to be a singer.'
C	'Marrying the first person who asked, because I thought no one would ever ask me.'
D	'My regret: listening to teachers who said I was stupid because I can't spell. After two degrees was told I'm dyslexic. Am currently on fourth degree.'
E	'Not getting a better education and working full-time from the age of 16.'
F	'Not taking the job in Paris.'

- d Look at the **highlighted** words in the article. Which are nouns and which are adjectives? If it's a noun, write the adjective, and vice versa.
- e If you had read Emma Freud's tweet *What is your biggest regret?*, what would you have written?

*I would have written 'Not starting to learn English when I was younger.'*

#### 4 GRAMMAR *wish* for past regrets

- a **5.20** Listen to three people talking about regrets. What thing does each person regret?
- b Listen again and complete the sentences with *wish*. What tense do we use after *wish* to talk about a regret?



**Speaker 1**

I wish I \_\_\_\_\_.



**Speaker 2**

I wish I \_\_\_\_\_.

I wish she \_\_\_\_\_.



**Speaker 3**

I wish I \_\_\_\_\_.

- c **p.141 Grammar Bank 5B** *wish* for past regrets

- d Write a regret with *I wish* for each of the categories below.

family health money travel

## 5 PRONUNCIATION & SPEAKING

### sentence rhythm and intonation

- a **5.22** Listen and write down six more regrets with *wish*.
- b Match regrets 1–6 from a with the sentences below.
- A Do you want me to phone and make an excuse?
  - B Yes, watching it on TV is never as exciting.
  - C Well, it isn't too late. You're only 22.
  - D Yes, you should have had more self-control!
  - E Why don't you go back to the shop and see if they still have them?
  - F Yes, it was a bit tactless. I hope she's not too upset.
- c **5.23** Listen and check. In pairs, practise the conversations. Copy the rhythm and intonation.
- d Work in small groups. Tell the other students about...

- a famous person from the past that you wish you'd met.
- a live event you wish you'd been to.
- something you wish you'd learned as a child.
- something you wish you hadn't bought.
- something you wish you'd spent more time on.
- a holiday or journey you wish you hadn't gone on.

## 6 LISTENING & WRITING

- a **5.24** Listen to a poem about regret from a poetry website. What's the first line of each verse?
- b Listen again, and for each verse, write down as many words as you can.
- c Work with a partner. Compare the words you've written, and together, try to reconstruct the poem.
- d Listen one more time and check your version.
- e Together, write your own poem of at least three verses. Start each verse with *I wish I had / hadn't...*
- f Read your poems aloud. Have a class vote for the best one.

## wish for present / future

## wish + past simple

I wish I **was** ten years younger! 🔊 5.17  
 I wish I **could** understand what they're saying.  
 I wish we **didn't live** so far from my parents.

- We use *wish* + person / thing + past simple to talk about things we would like to be different in the present / future (but which are impossible or unlikely).
- After *wish*, you can use *was* or *were* with *I*, *he*, *she*, and *it*, e.g. *I wish I was / were taller.*

## wish + would / wouldn't

I wish the bus **would come**. I'm freezing. 🔊 5.18  
 I wish you'd **spend** a bit more time with the children.  
 I wish you **wouldn't leave** your shoes there. I always fall over them.  
 I wish cyclists **wouldn't cycle** on the pavement!

- We use *wish* + person / thing + *would* / *wouldn't* to talk about things we want to happen, or stop happening, because they annoy us.
- You can't use *wish* + *would* for a wish about yourself, i.e. **NOT** *I wish I would...*, *I wish we would...*

## wish for past regrets

## wish + past perfect

I wish I'd **worked** harder at school. 🔊 5.21  
 I wish I **hadn't spoken** to him like that!  
 I wish she'd **told** me the truth about her feelings.

- We use *wish* + past perfect to talk about things that happened or didn't happen in the past and which we now regret.

🔍 *if only...*

*if only* is sometimes used instead of *I wish* in certain situations, to express deep regret, e.g. *If only I had worked harder at school (I wouldn't have such a boring job now).*



- a Write sentences with *I wish* + past simple for 1–5, and *I wish...would / wouldn't* for 6–10.

I'd like to be taller. *I wish I was taller.*  
 It annoys me that you don't put away your clothes.  
*I wish you'd put away your clothes!*

**I'd like these things to be different**

- I'd like to be fitter.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like my sister not to share a room with me.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like to be able to dance.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like my grandmother not to be dead.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like to live in a country with a better climate.  
\_\_\_\_\_

**It annoys me that...**

- shop assistants aren't more polite.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- you turn the heating up all the time.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- my brother doesn't tidy our room.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- the neighbour's dog barks at night.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- it doesn't stop raining.  
\_\_\_\_\_

- b Rewrite the sentence beginning with *I wish* + past perfect.

- I regret having written that email.  
 I wish *I hadn't written that email.*
- I regret not seeing Prince live.  
I wish \_\_\_\_\_.
  - He regrets not learning to cook at school.  
He wishes \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Do you regret buying a second-hand car?  
Do you wish \_\_\_\_\_?
  - Jenny regrets marrying her first husband.  
Jenny wishes \_\_\_\_\_.
  - My parents regret moving to the country.  
My parents wish \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Does Tom regret not studying law?  
Does Tom wish \_\_\_\_\_?
  - I regret having my hair cut so short.  
I wish \_\_\_\_\_.
  - They regret not going to the wedding.  
They wish \_\_\_\_\_.