

Devoir surveillé – Souhaits et regrets : I wish, if only

I wish / if only + prétérit (souhait sur le présent), + past perfect (regret sur le passé), + would (reproche, souhait de changement), comparaison avec les conditionnels, emplois à l'oral et à l'écrit

Durée : 55 min – Sans document – Sur 20 points · Anglais 3^e

Nom : _____ Date : _____ Note : _____ / 20

Les réponses doivent être rédigées et justifiées. Soigne l'orthographe et la présentation.

Exercice 1 – Compréhension de l'écrit : une lettre

(4 pts)

Document. A letter from Grandpa Joe to his grandson Noah.

« Dear Noah, thanks for your email. You asked me what I regret most about my teenage years. Well, I left school at sixteen to work in my father's garage, because he needed help. I wish I had stayed longer: I loved history, and I wanted to become a teacher. If only I had passed my exams! Today I'm seventy-two, and I still wish I could speak another language: your grandmother and I go to Spain every spring, and all I can say is "gracias"! As for you, stop worrying about your marks all the time. I wish you would enjoy your last year of school a bit more. And please tell your mum that I wish she didn't work so late every evening. Love, Grandpa Joe »

- Why did Joe leave school at sixteen? Give two things he regrets about it.
- Copy the wish about the present in which Joe talks about himself, then explain what the reality is.
- Copy the sentence with *I wish + would*. To whom is it addressed, and what does Joe want to change?
- Rewrite these two sentences as facts, without *wish* : « I wish I had stayed longer » ; « I wish she didn't work so late every evening ».

Exercice 2 – Grammaire : du constat au souhait

(4 pts)

Réécris chaque phrase en commençant par les mots donnés, pour exprimer le souhait ou le regret contraire.

- « I'm not allowed to use my phone at dinner. » (I wish...)
- « We didn't take any photos of the fireworks. » (If only...)
- « My uncle can't come to my birthday party. » (I wish...)
- « The neighbours' cat keeps digging holes in our garden. » (I wish... — reproche)

Exercice 3 – Choisir le temps selon le contexte

(4 pts)

Mets le verbe entre parenthèses à la forme qui convient. Attention au moment visé.

- It's 11 p.m. and I haven't finished my project. If only I (have) ____ one more day!
- Last summer, I had a broken leg and missed the festival. I wish I (can / go) ____ to it.
- Phones keep ringing during films. I wish people (switch off) ____ their phones in cinemas!
- My pen friend Emma lives in Toronto and I miss her. If only she (be) ____ here with me now!

Exercice 4 – Repérer et expliquer une erreur

(4 pts)

Chaque phrase contient une erreur. Recopie-la corrigée, puis explique la correction en français, en une ligne.

- a) « I wish I would be better at drawing. »
- b) « I wish you have a great holiday in Greece! »
- c) « If only I didn't forget my keys yesterday! »
- d) « I wish I'd went to bed earlier last night. »

Exercice 5 – Expression écrite guidée

(4 pts)

Your school magazine has a page called « Wishes and regrets ». Write your contribution (80 words minimum), following the four steps.

- a) Write two wishes about your present life (school, home or hobbies): one with *I wish* + preterite, one with *I wish* + *could*.
- b) Tell the reader about one past event you regret, then express the regret with *If only* + past perfect.
- c) Complain about someone's annoying habit with *I wish* + *would*, and say why it annoys you.
- d) End with a real wish for the future using *I hope*, then explain in French, in one line, why *wish* is not possible here.

Bon courage !

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