

University Centre Abdelhafid Boussouf Elearning Centre



English –

MA.1

Lesson one

Expressing hypothetical meaning

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Students Concerned- Semester 2					
Institute	Department	Year	Specialty		
Economic Science	Economic & C o m m e r c i a l Science	Master one	All specialties		

Objectives of the lesson:

The ultimate objective of this lesson is to reintroduce students to four different types regarding the way to express hypothetical meaning in English, along with the proper usage.

Yakoub farah

Expressing hypothetical meaning happens when we talk about things that we imagine.

- We use wish + past simple to express a wish that has not come true in the present or to talk about wishes that might come true in the future.eg. We wish the weather wasn't/ weren't so bad.
- We use wish + would and could to refer to general wishes for the future.eg. I wish I could be in the football team.
- Wish + would is used to talk about wishes we have for other people.eg. I wish my father would stop smoking.
- 4. We use wish + past perfect to refer to things we are sorry about in the past.eg. I wishI have been invited to her graduation party.
- **<u>if only</u>** are used to talk about things which we want but which are not possible:

Example:

If only we could stop to take a photo.

If only I could find the answer.

• <u>It's time</u> is used with the past simple to talk about the present or the future. We mean that the action should have been done before. For emphasis, we can also say **it's about time** and **it's high time**.

Example:

It's time you started revising for the exam.

- <u>Would rather</u>
- We use Would rather+ past simple to say what we want someone or something else to do in the present or future.

Example: I would rather we didn't discuss that, if you don't mind.

2. We use **would rather+ past perfect** to say what we wanted to happen in the past.

Example:

I would rather you had asked me first.

• <u>Suppose/ what if</u>

Suppose means what if...? It is used with:

 The present simple to describe something that may possibly happen or may have happened.

Example: suppose the super-market break down financially

2. The past simple to talk about something that is just imagination or which is unlikely to happen in the future

Example: suppose your business broke down, how would you do?

 The past perfect to talk about something that could have happened in the past but didn't.

Example: suppose you hadn't chosen this specialty, what else would you choose?

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