



C

5 Look at the facts behind this regret.

*I shouldn't have gone out last night. I went out last night.*

What are the facts behind these statements?

- I wish I *knew* the answer.
- If only I *could* come.
- If I *didn't* get so nervous, I'd get better exam results.
- If you'd *helped* us, we'd *have finished* by now.
- I *should have listened* to your advice.
- If only I'd *told* the truth.
- I wish I *spoke* French really well.
- I wish you *would speak* to him.
- I'd rather you *lived* with us, Mum. It's time you *had* someone looking after you.
- Supposing you *were* in charge ...



D

### LANGUAGE FOCUS

- Which sentences in 5 are about present time? Which are about the past?
- In sentences c, d and f, what are the full forms of the contractions I'd, you'd and we'd?
- Other expressions are also used to hypothesize. Complete the facts in brackets.
  - It's time you *knew* the truth. (The fact is that you ...)
  - I'd rather you *didn't* smoke. (The fact is that ...)
  - Supposing you'd *fallen and hurt* yourself? (Fortunately you ...)

Grammar reference 11.2–11.3 pp162–163

## Practice

### Wishes and regrets

1 Express a wish or regret about these facts. Use the words in brackets.

- I don't speak English fluently. (*wish*)
- We don't have a garden. (*If only*)
- I'm an only child. (*wish*)
- You're talking way too fast. I can't possibly follow you. (*If*)
- I get up at 6.00 because I have to go to work. (*wouldn't / if*)
- I didn't learn to ski till I was 50, so I'm not very good yet. (*If*)
- My youngest daughter wants to be taller. (*wish*)
- You always leave the top off the toothpaste! (*wish*)
- I wish my sister would ask before borrowing my clothes. (*I'd rather*)
- So you're leaving because they won't give you a pay rise? (*Supposing*)
- We didn't read the instructions carefully enough. (*should*)
- We need to have a break. (*It's time*)

11.4 Listen and compare. What do people say in reply?



E