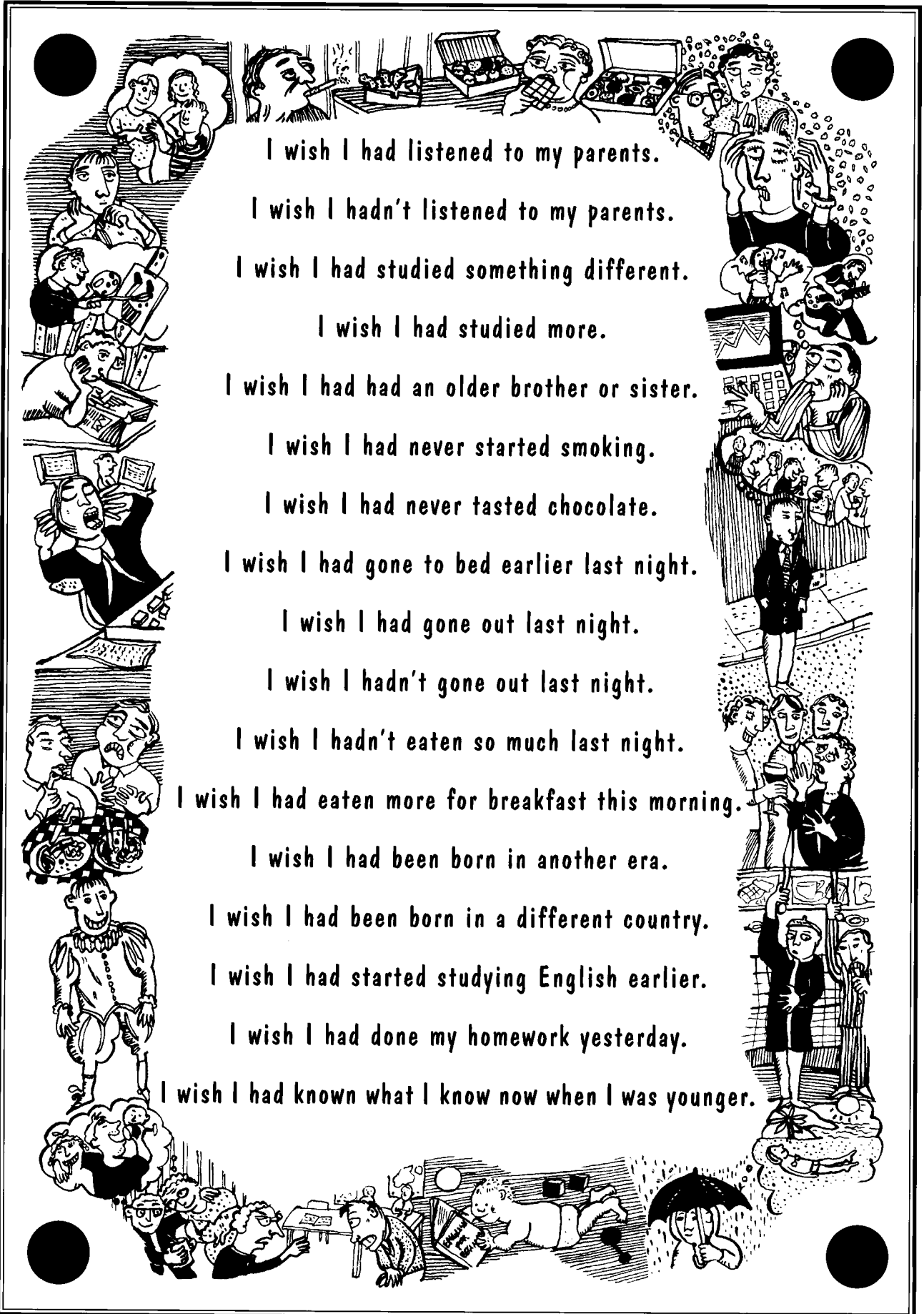


*Life Would Have Been Different*



I wish I had listened to my parents.  
 I wish I hadn't listened to my parents.  
 I wish I had studied something different.  
 I wish I had studied more.  
 I wish I had had an older brother or sister.  
 I wish I had never started smoking.  
 I wish I had never tasted chocolate.  
 I wish I had gone to bed earlier last night.  
 I wish I had gone out last night.  
 I wish I hadn't gone out last night.  
 I wish I hadn't eaten so much last night.  
 I wish I had eaten more for breakfast this morning.  
 I wish I had been born in another era.  
 I wish I had been born in a different country.  
 I wish I had started studying English earlier.  
 I wish I had done my homework yesterday.  
 I wish I had known what I know now when I was younger.

# Life Would Have Been Different Worksheet

29

## ACTIVITY

Whole class: speaking

## AIM

To talk about things you wish you had or hadn't done.

## GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

Expressing regret about the past

*Wish + past perfect*

Third conditional to talk about imaginary situations in the past and to describe their results

*May have, might have, or could have* in third conditional clauses if the result is not certain

## VOCABULARY

Life events

## PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student in the class.

## TIME

15 to 20 minutes

## PROCEDURE

1. Give one copy of the worksheet to each student in the class.
2. Ask the students to read the list of wishes and to choose three that are true for themselves.
3. When they have done that, ask them to stand up and go around the class looking for people who have chosen one of the same wishes as theirs. When they find someone who has chosen one of the same wishes, they should ask and answer questions to find out why they chose it. For example:  
 Student A: *Why do you wish you'd listened to your parents?*  
 Student B: *They told me not to smoke, and now I wish I didn't smoke because it's so expensive. What about you?*  
 Student A: *They told me not to dye my hair, but I did and now it's in really bad condition.*
4. When all the students have spoken to several different partners about their wishes, ask them to sit down in groups of three to five for the next part of the activity.
5. Ask the students to report back to their group on what they found out during the activity. Encourage them to use the third conditional for this part of the activity. For example:  
*Silvia said that if she'd listened to her parents, she wouldn't have started smoking.*  
*Luis said that if he'd listened to his parents, he wouldn't have dyed his hair.*