

Wishes and regrets by Svetlana Gavrilovic

Age:	Teenagers/Adults
Level:	Upper intermediate
Time:	20 minutes
Objectives:	To practise expressing wishes and regrets using a variety of structures
Key skills:	Writing; speaking; listening
Materials:	Images, drawings or names of celebrities to put up around the classroom; two post-it notes per student

Procedure

1. Warmer (5 mins)

Choose around five celebrities you think your group of students will know. These could be current celebrities or famous names from history. Try and find some images of the celebrities that you can put up around the room/classroom. If you can't find images, you could choose an object or event that they are famous for to represent them. Focus students' attention on the images/objects/names and ask them if they know who the people are. Elicit students' opinions on what they think each celebrity is most famous for, and what their opinion of each person is.

2. Writing practice (5 mins)

Ask students to choose one of the celebrities and try to imagine what kind of wishes or regrets they might have. You could suggest or elicit different topic areas to support students in their thinking. Distribute two post-it notes to each student. Write up the following 'wishes and regrets' structures on the board, and ask students to write one or two of the celebrity wishes or regrets on the post-it notes (one sentence per note) in the first person singular:

- *I wish / If only* + past simple / past perfect
- *I'd better* + bare infinitive
- *It's time* + past simple
- *I should(n't)* + bare infinitive / *have* + past participle
- *I could have* + past participle

3. Speaking and listening practice (10 mins)

Ask each student to read out the wishes and regrets they have written. The rest of the class must guess which celebrity's wish or regret it is. When they guess the correct person, the student goes to the corresponding picture and sticks the note there. If the student uses an incorrect grammatical structure, encourage the student to self-correct or elicit some peer correction from the class if appropriate.

4. Follow-up (or homework)

Ask students to choose a different celebrity and write a paragraph about the person in no more than one hundred words entitled 'Life of regrets'.