

144 Conditionals (1)

1 Introduction



Vicky and Rachel are talking about possible future actions. They may catch the bus, or they may miss it.

2 First Conditional: If we hurry, we'll catch the bus

IF-CLAUSE			MAIN CLAUSE		
If	+	PRESENT SIMPLE		+	will
<i>If we</i>		hurry,	<i>we</i>		'll catch the bus.
<i>If we</i>		miss it,	<i>there</i>		'll be another one.
<i>If it</i>		doesn't rain,	<i>we</i>		'll be having a picnic.
<i>If I</i>		don't practise my golf,	<i>I</i>		won't get any better.

The verb in the if-clause (e.g. **hurry**) is in the Present Simple, not the future.

NOT *If we'll hurry, we'll catch the bus.*

But we can use **will** in the if-clause when we make a request.

If you'll just wait a moment, I'll find someone to help you. (= Please wait a moment ...)

We can use the Present Continuous (e.g. **are doing**) or the Present Perfect (e.g. **have done**) in the if-clause.

If we're expecting visitors, the flat will need a good clean.

If you've finished with the computer, I'll put it away.

The main clause often has **will**. But we can use other modal verbs (e.g. **can**).

If you haven't got a television, you can't watch it, can you?

If Henry jogs regularly, he might lose weight.

If Matthew is going to a job interview, he should wear a tie.

The if-clause usually comes first, but it can come after the main clause.

If I hear any news, I'll phone you. / I'll phone you if I hear any news.

3 More uses of the First Conditional

We can use First Conditionals in offers and suggestions.

If you need a ticket, I can get you one. If you feel like seeing the sights, we can take a bus tour.

We can also use them in warnings and threats.

If you go on like this, you'll make yourself ill. If you don't apologize, I'll never speak to you again.

4 If you heat water, it boils

We sometimes use the Present Simple in both clauses.

If you heat water, it boils. If Daniel has any money, he spends it.

If you press this switch, the computer comes on.

This means that one thing always follows automatically from another.

Pressing the switch always results in the computer coming on.

Practice

A First Conditional (1–3)

Read the conversation and then choose the correct forms.

Rachel: Have you heard about the pop festival?

Vicky: Yes, (▶) it's/it'll be good if Express are playing. They're a great band.

Rachel: Will you be able to go, Nick?

Nick: If (1) I ask/I'll ask my boss, he'll give me some time off work, I expect.

Vicky: How are we going to get there?

Rachel: Well, if (2) there are/there'll be enough people, we can hire a minibus.

Vicky: I won't be going if (3) it's/it'll be too expensive.

Rachel: It (4) isn't costing/won't cost much if we all (5) share/will share the cost.

Nick: If (6) I see/I'll see the others later on tonight, (7) I ask/I'll ask them if they want to go.

B First Conditional (1–3)

Comment on the situations. Use *if* + the present tense + *will/can*.

▶ It might rain. If it does, everyone can eat inside.

If it rains, everyone can eat inside.

▶ The children mustn't go near Nick's dog. It'll bite them.

If the children go near Nick's dog, it'll bite them.

1 Rachel might fail her driving test. But she can take it again.

2 United might lose. If they do, Tom will be upset.

3 The office may be closed. In that case Mark won't be able to get in.

4 Nick may arrive a bit early. If he does, he can help Tom to get things ready.

5 The party might go on all night. If it does, no one will want to do any work tomorrow.

6 Emma may miss the train. But she can get the next one.

7 Is Matthew going to enter the race? He'll probably win it.

C Present Simple in both clauses (4)

Match the sentences and join them with *if*.

▶ You lose your credit card. I can't sleep.

1 You get promoted. You get a warning letter.

2 I drink coffee late at night. You have to ring the bank.

3 You don't pay the bill. Your salary goes up.

4 I try to run fast. The alarm goes off.

5 Someone enters the building. I get out of breath.

▶ If you lose your credit card, you have to ring the bank.

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145 Conditionals (2)

1 Introduction

Rachel: *Would you like some cake, Jessica?*

Jessica: *No thanks. **If I ate** cake, **I'd** get fat.*

Rachel: *But it's delicious.*

Jessica: *It looks delicious. **If I had** your figure, **I'd** eat the whole lot.*

I ate cake and I had your figure are imaginary or unreal situations.

Jessica isn't going to eat the cake, and she hasn't got a figure like Rachel's.

2 Second Conditional: If I ate cake, I'd get fat

IF-CLAUSE		MAIN CLAUSE
If	+ PAST SIMPLE	+ would
If I	ate cake,	I 'd get fat.
If I	had your figure,	I 'd eat the whole lot.
If we	didn't have a car,	we 'd find it difficult to get about.
If Rachel	got up earlier,	she wouldn't always be late.

Note the Past Simple (e.g. **ate**). We do not use **would** in the if-clause. NOT *If I'd eat cake.*

But we can use **would** in the if-clause when we make a request.

If you'd like to come this way, the doctor will see you now. (= Please come this way ...)

As well as the Past Simple we can use the Past Continuous (e.g. **was doing**) in the if-clause.

*If Rachel **was playing** her stereo, it **wouldn't** be so quiet in here.*

In a Second Conditional if-clause we sometimes use **were** instead of **was**, especially in the clause **if I were you**.

*If Rachel **were playing** her stereo, it **wouldn't** be so quiet in here.*

*If I **were** you, I'd ask a lawyer for some advice.*

The main clause often has **would**. We can also use **could** or **might**.

*If we had a calculator, we **could** work this out a lot quicker.*

*If Rachel worked harder, she **might** do even better at her studies.*

The if-clause usually comes first, but it can come after the main clause.

*If I knew, I'd tell you. I'd tell you **if** I knew.*

3 First and Second Conditionals

Compare these examples.

First: *If you **have** a lie-down, you'll feel better.* (See Unit 144.2)

Second: *If I **had** a million pounds, I'd probably buy a yacht.*

The present tense (**have**) refers to a possible future action, something which may or may not happen.

The past tense (**had**) refers to something unreal. *If I had a million pounds* means that I haven't really got a million pounds, but I am imagining that I have. Compare these examples.

First: *If we **take** the car, we'll have to pay for parking.*

Second: *If we **took** the car, we'd have to pay for parking.*

Here both sentences refer to a possible future action. But in the Second Conditional, the action is less probable. *If we took the car* may mean that we have decided not to take it.

We can use Second Conditionals in offers and suggestions.

*If you needed a ticket, I **could** get you one.*

*If you felt like seeing the sights, we **could** take a bus tour.*

The Second Conditional is less direct than the First Conditional (Unit 144.3). The speaker is less sure that you want to see the sights.

Practice

A Second Conditional (1–2)

Comment on these situations. Use a Second Conditional with *would* or *could*.

- ▶ Andrew is such a boring person because he works all the time.
You know, *if Andrew didn't work all the time, he wouldn't be such a boring person.*
- ▶ You can't take a photo because you haven't got your camera.
How annoying. *If I had my camera, I could take a photo.*
- 1 You can't look the word up because you haven't got a dictionary.
I'm sorry.
- 2 You don't write to your friends because you're so busy.
I've got so much to do.
- 3 You can't play tennis because your back is aching.
It's a nuisance.
- 4 Claire won't marry Henry because she doesn't love him.
Of course,
- 5 Nick can't find the way because he hasn't got a map.
Nick's lost, but
- 6 David has so many accidents because he's so clumsy.
You know,

B First and Second Conditionals (1–3)

Complete the conversation. Put in the correct form of the verb. You may need to use *will* or *would*.

- Matthew: I haven't forgotten your birthday, you know. If you like, ▶ *I'll book* (I / book) a table for Thursday at our favourite restaurant.
- Emma: My birthday is on Wednesday, Matthew. You're playing basketball then, aren't you? If you cared for me, (1) (you / not / play) basketball on my birthday.
- Matthew: What's the difference? If (2) (we / go) out on Thursday, it'll be just the same. If (3) (I / not / play), I'd be letting the team down.
- Emma: Yes, I suppose (4) (it / be) a disaster if you missed one game. Well, if (5) (you / think) more of your friends than you do of me, you can forget the whole thing.
- Matthew: I just don't understand you sometimes, Emma.
- Emma: If (6) (you / think) about it, you'd understand. And I think (7) (it / be) better if we forgot all about my birthday.
- Matthew: Don't be silly, Emma. If you get into one of your bad moods, (8) (it / not / do) any good.
- Emma: If you were interested in my feelings, (9) (I / not / get) into a bad mood.

C First and Second Conditionals (3)

What does the if-clause mean? Write a sentence with *isn't* or *might*.

- ▶ If this room was tidy, I could find things. *The room isn't tidy.*
- ▶ If we're late tonight, we can get a taxi. *We might be late tonight.*
- 1 If the phone was working, I could call you.
- 2 If it rains, can you bring the washing in?
- 3 If Mike was here, he'd know what to do.
- 4 If this spoon was silver, it would be worth a lot.
- 5 If Sarah calls, can you say I'll ring back?

146 Conditionals (3)

1 Introduction

- David: *How was your camping holiday?*
Mike: *Well, it **would have been** all right if it **hadn't rained** all the time.*
Harriet: *If we'd **gone** two weeks earlier, we'd **have had** better weather.*



If it hadn't rained and *if we'd gone two weeks earlier* are imaginary situations in the past. It did rain, and they didn't go two weeks earlier.

2 Third Conditional: If we had gone earlier, we would have had better weather

IF-CLAUSE		MAIN CLAUSE	
If	+ PAST PERFECT	+ would have	
If we	'd gone earlier,	we	'd have had better weather.
If Matthew	had phoned her,	Emma	wouldn't have been so annoyed.
If you	hadn't made that mistake,	you	'd have passed your test.
If David	had been more careful,	he	wouldn't have fallen.

Note the verb in the Past Perfect (e.g. **had been**). We do not use **would** in the if-clause.

NOT *If David would have been more careful, he would have fallen.*

The main clause often has **would have**. We can also use **could have** or **might have**.

*If I'd had my mobile yesterday, I **could have** contacted you.*

*We just caught the train. If we'd stopped to buy a paper, we **might have** missed it.*

The short form 'd can be either **had** or **would**.

*If you'd rung me, I'd have come to see you. (= If you **had** rung me, I **would have** come to see you.)*

3 The use of the Third Conditional

We use the Third Conditional to talk about things in the past happening differently from the way they really happened. This sometimes means criticizing people or pointing out their mistakes.

*If you'd been a bit more careful, you **wouldn't have** cut yourself.*

*If Matthew had set his alarm clock, he **wouldn't have** overslept.*

We can also use this structure to express regret about the past.

*If I hadn't fallen ill and missed the interview, I **might have** got the job.*

4 Second and Third Conditionals

Compare these examples.

Second: *If you **planned** things properly, you **wouldn't** get into a mess.* (You don't plan.)

Third: *If you **had planned** things properly, you **wouldn't have** got into a mess.* (You didn't plan.)

We can mix the Second and Third conditionals.

*If you **had planned** things at the start, we **wouldn't** be in this mess now.*

*If you **hadn't left** all these dirty dishes, the place **would** look a bit tidier.*

*If Matthew **was** more sensible, he **would have** worn a suit to the interview.*

*If I **didn't have** all this work to do, I **would have** gone out for the day.*

Practice

A Third Conditional (1–3)

Complete the conversation. Put in the correct form of the verb. Use the Past Perfect or *would have*.

Nick: United didn't play very well today.

Tom: We were awful. But if Hacker ► had taken (take) that easy chance,
► we would have won (we / win).

Nick: We didn't deserve to win. It (1) (be) pretty unfair if Rangers
(2) (lose).

Tom: Hacker was dreadful. My grandmother (3) (score) if
(4) (she / be) in that position.

Nick: And if Burley (5) (not / be) asleep,
he (6) (not / give) a goal away.

Tom: If Johnson (7) (not / be) injured when we needed him
most, (8) (it / be) different.

Nick: Yes, (9) (we / beat) them if (10)
(he / be) fit.

B Third Conditional (1–3)

Comment on each situation using a Third Conditional with *if*. Use *would have*, *could have* or *might have*.

► In a bookshop yesterday Daniel saw a book he really wanted. The only problem was that he didn't have any money. Daniel would have bought the book if he had had any money.

► Rita often goes to concerts at the town hall, although not to every one. There was one on Saturday, but she didn't know about it. Rita might have gone to the concert if she had known about it.

- 1 On Sunday the guests had to have their lunch inside. Unfortunately it wasn't warm enough to have it outside.
- 2 There was a bomb scare last Tuesday. Sarah wanted to fly to Rome, but she wasn't able to. The airport was closed.
- 3 Laura has only met Nick once, and it's possible she wouldn't recognize him. He passed her yesterday, but he had a crash-helmet on.
- 4 Sarah has been quite busy, and she hasn't watered her plants for some time. As a result, they've died.
- 5 Nick likes ice hockey, but he didn't have a ticket to the game last week, so unfortunately he wasn't able to get in.

C Second and Third Conditionals (4)

Complete the conversations. Put in the correct form of the verb.

Use the Past Simple, the Past Perfect, *would*, or *would have*.

► Mike: You look tired.

Harriet: Well, if you hadn't woken (you / not / wake) me up in the middle of the night,
I wouldn't be (I / not be) so tired.

1 Rita: Is Trevor a practical person?

Laura: Trevor? No, he isn't. If (he / be) practical,
..... (he / put) those shelves up a bit quicker. It took him ages.

2 Tom: Why are you sitting in the dark?

David: Let's just say that if (I / pay) my electricity bill last
month, (I / not be) in the dark now.

3 Matthew: Why are you so angry with me? All I did yesterday was play basketball.

Emma: If (you / love) me,
(you / not / leave) me here all alone on my birthday.

147 Review of conditionals

1 First, Second and Third Conditionals



There are three main types of conditional. Study the examples.

First: if ... the Present Simple ... **will/can/might**, etc.

If we win today, we'll go to the top of the league. (We may win, or we may not.)

Second: if ... Past Simple ... **would/could/might**

If Johnson was in the team, I'd feel more confident. (Johnson isn't in the team.)

Third: if ... Past Perfect ... **would have/could have/might have**

If Johnson had played, we'd have won. (Johnson didn't play.)

Here are some more examples with different verb forms.

First *If I'm going shopping, I'll need some money.*

If the disco has finished, we might be able to get some sleep.

You should stay in bed if you feel unwell.

Second *If I didn't like this pudding, I wouldn't eat it.*

If the video recorder was working, we could watch a film.

The alarm might go off if we tried to get in through a window.

Third *If we'd dropped the piano, it would have been a disaster.*

If Vicky had come to the theme park with us last week, she might have enjoyed it.

We could have given you a lift if we'd known you were coming this way.

2 Other conditional sentences

As well as the three main types, there are other types of conditional sentence.

For example, we can use two present-tense verbs (see Unit 144.4).

If you ring this number, no one answers.

We can also use a present-tense verb and an imperative.

If you need any help, just ask. If you drink, don't drive.

We can use **be going to**.

If it's going to rain, I'd better take an umbrella.

If they try to cut down the trees, there's going to be a big protest.

We can mix the Second and Third Conditionals (see Unit 146.4).

If Matthew had booked a table, we wouldn't be standing here in a queue.

If you needed help, you should have asked me.

Practice

A First, Second and Third Conditionals (1)

Match the sentences and join them with *if*. Say what type they are.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ▶ I went to bed earlier. | I'll try to follow them. |
| 1 The twins had worn different clothes. | You might not be warm enough. |
| 2 You tell me what the instructions say. | I wouldn't have bought it. |
| 3 People used public transport. | <u>I wouldn't sleep.</u> |
| 4 You don't wear a sweater. | There'd be less pollution. |
| 5 I hadn't seen the product advertised. | We could have told them apart. |

- ▶ If I went to bed earlier, I wouldn't sleep. Second
- 1
2
3
4
5

B First, Second and Third Conditionals (1)

Adam is a music student. He rents a room from Mr Day. Put in the correct forms.

Mr Day: Can't you stop playing that trumpet? You're making an awful noise.

Adam: Well, if ▶ I don't practise (I / not practise), I won't pass my exam.

Mr Day: But why at night? It's half past twelve. If (1) (you / play) it in the daytime, (2) (I / not / hear) you because I'd be at work. If (3) (you / tell) me about this trumpet when you first came here, (4) (I / not / let) you have the room. I'm afraid it's becoming a nuisance. If (5) (you / not / play) so loud, (6) (it / not / be) so bad.

Adam: I'm sorry, but you can't play a trumpet quietly.

Mr Day: If (7) (I / realize) a year ago what you were going to do, then (8) (I / throw) you out long ago. If (9) (you / go) on making this noise at night, (10) (I / have) to complain to your college.

C Conditionals (1–2)

What might you say in these situations? Use a conditional sentence.

▶ You think Emma should book a seat on the train. The alternative is having to stand.

If Emma doesn't book a seat on the train, she'll have to stand.

- 1 You didn't know how unpopular Jason was when you invited him to your party.
.....
- 2 Warn your friend not to put too many tins into the plastic bag or it'll break.
.....
- 3 You haven't got a pen, so you can't write down the address.
.....
- 4 You should have started your project earlier. You're so far behind now.
.....
- 5 Your friend might need some help. If so, tell her to give you a ring.
.....
- 6 The automatic result of the door opening is the fan coming on.
.....

148 If, when, unless and in case

1 Present Simple for the future

Look at these examples.

*You'll be tired tomorrow **if** you **stay** up late. Tell me **when** the water **boils**.*

*I won't do anything **unless** you **agree**. Write the name down **in case** you **forget** it.*

We use the Present Simple for the future after linking words such as **if**, **when**, **unless** and **in case** (see also Units 27 and 144.2).

2 If or when?

***If** you hear any news, can you ring me immediately?*

(You might hear some news.)

*I'll probably go for a walk later on **if** it stays fine.*

(It might stay fine.)

We use **if** for something that we think might happen.

We use **if** (not **when**) for something impossible or imaginary.

***If** I were you, I'd refuse.*

***When** you hear some news, can you ring me immediately?*

(You will hear some news.)

*I'll make myself an omelette **when** I get home tonight.*

(I will get home tonight.)

We use **when** for something that we know will happen.

We can use either **if** or **when** in contexts where they mean 'every time'.

***If** you run, you use up energy.*

***When** you run, you use up energy.*

3 If and unless

If ... not means the same as **unless**.

*I can't see **if** I **don't** wear glasses.*

= *I can't see **unless** I wear glasses.*

*The doctor will be here **if** she **isn't** called to an emergency.*

= *The doctor will be here **unless** she's called to an emergency.*

***If** you **can't** pay your bills, you'll have to leave.*

= ***Unless** you can pay your bills, you'll have to leave.*

*I wouldn't say that **if** I **didn't** believe it.*

= *I wouldn't say that **unless** I believed it.*

4 In case

Look at these examples.

*Take a sandwich with you **in case** you get hungry.*

*I'd better reserve a seat today **in case** the train is full tomorrow.*

*Laura took two photos **in case** one of them didn't come out.*

We use **in case** to talk about doing something to avoid a possible problem later on.

(For American English, see page 381.)

Compare **if** and **in case**.

*I'll bring in the washing **if** it rains.*
(= I'll bring it in at the time it starts raining.)

*I'll bring in the washing **in case** it rains.*
(= I'll bring it in now because it might rain later.)

Practice

A If or when? (2)

Look at the information in brackets and complete the sentences using *if* or *when* and a verb in the Present Simple.

- ▶ (I may see Tom tonight.) *If I see Tom*, I'll tell him the news.
- ▶ (Melanie is coming soon.) *When Melanie comes*, can you let her in, please?
- 1 (The alarm will ring soon.) we all have to leave the building.
- 2 (I might feel better tomorrow.) I'll probably go back to work.
- 3 (This film finishes at ten.) I'll stop the video.
- 4 (The plan may not work.) we'll have to think of something else.

B If and unless (3)

Complete the sentences using *unless* and the information in brackets.

- ▶ You won't get there in time *unless you hurry*. (if you don't hurry)
- 1 We can't have a picnic (if it isn't a nice day)
- 2 Don't leave the TV on (if you aren't watching it)
- 3 We can't do the job (if we don't get help)
- 4 I wouldn't have bought the picture (if I didn't like it)

C If and unless (3)

Which word makes more sense? Put in *if* or *unless*.

- ▶ Rachel will be pleased *if* she passes her driving test.
- ▶ The bus won't stop *unless* you ring the bell.
- 1 I can't read your writing you print clearly.
- 2 Emma will be upset she doesn't get the job.
- 3 You can't go into the reception you've got a ticket.
- 4 Don't bother to ring me it's important.

D In case (4)

What could you say in these situations? Use *in case*.

- ▶ You think Vicky had better take a coat. It might get cold.
You to Vicky: *You'd better take a coat in case it gets cold.*
- 1 You think you and Mark had better book a table. The restaurant might be busy.
You to Mark:
- 2 You think Claire ought to insure her jewellery. It might get stolen.
You to Claire:
- 3 You'll leave David your phone number. He might want to contact you.
You to David:

E If, when, unless and in case (2-4)

Jake lives next door to Melanie. Complete their conversation. Put in *if*, *when* (x2), *unless* or *in case*.

- Jake: A man is delivering a washing-machine this morning, but I have to go to work. I won't be here ▶ *when* he calls. Could you let him in for me, please, (1) you're terribly busy?
- Melanie: Oh, that's no problem.
- Jake: Oh, thanks. (2) you could do that, I'd be really grateful. I'll leave a message on his answerphone. And (3) he doesn't get the message, I'll put a note on the door, just to make sure. He'll see it (4) he comes.

149 Wish and if only

1 Introduction



We can use **I wish** or **if only** to express a wish. Jessica wishes she was slimmer. **If only** is stronger and more emphatic than **wish**.

We can use a clause with **if only** on its own, or we can add another clause.

If only I wasn't so fat. **If only I wasn't so fat, I would be able to get into these trousers.**

2 Wish ... would

Look at these examples.

*I wish you **would** put those shelves up soon.*

*Tom wishes his neighbours **wouldn't** make so much noise.*

If only you'd try to keep the place tidy.

Wish/If only ... would expresses a wish for something to happen, or to stop happening.

3 Wish ... the past

Look at these examples.

*I wish I **lived** in a big city. It's so boring in the country.*

*We all wish we **had** more money, don't we? If only I **was** taller, I might be better at basketball.*

Wish and if only with a past-tense verb express a wish for things to be different.

We can use **were** instead of **was** (see also Unit 145.2).

*If only I **were** taller, I might be better at basketball.*

We cannot use **would** in these sentences, but we can use **could**.

*I wish I **could** sing (but I can't). I feel so helpless. If only I **could** speak the language.*

Compare **wish** with **would** and with the past.

*I wish something exciting **would** happen. (I wish for an action in the future.)*

*I wish my life **was** more interesting. (My life isn't interesting.)*

4 Wish ... the Past Perfect

We use **wish** and **if only** with the Past Perfect to express a wish about the past.

*I wish you **had told** me about the dance. I would have gone.*

*I wish I'd **got** up earlier. I'm behind with everything today.*

*I wish you **hadn't lost** that photo. It was a really good one.*

*If only David **had been** a bit more careful, he'd have been all right.*

We do not use **would have** for the past, but we can use **could have**.

*I wish I **could have been** at the wedding, but I was in New York.*

Practice

A Wish ... would (2)

What might you say in these situations? Begin *I wish ...*

- ▶ to someone who never answers your emails

I wish you'd answer my emails.

- ▶ to someone who makes rude remarks about you

I wish you wouldn't make rude remarks about me.

- 1 to someone who won't hurry up

- 2 to someone who never does the washing-up

- 3 to someone who isn't telling you the whole story

- 4 to someone who blows cigarette smoke in your face

- 5 to someone who won't tell you what he's thinking

B Wish ... the past (3)

Vicky is fed up. What is she saying? Use *I wish* or *if only*.

- ▶ (She can't think straight.) *I wish I could think straight.*

- 1 (She is so tired.)

- 2 (She gets headaches.)

- 3 (Her work isn't going well.)

- 4 (She can't concentrate.)

- 5 (Life is so complicated.)

C Wish ... the Past Perfect (4)

Complete the sentences. Use these words: *accepted, caught, found, played, saved, stayed*

- ▶ I spent all my money. I wish now that *I had saved it.*

- 1 I missed the train. I really wish

- 2 Rita left the party early. Nick wishes

- 3 Emma refused the offer. But her parents wish

- 4 I looked everywhere for the key. I wish

- 5 The injured player could only watch. He wishes

D Wish and if only (2–4)

Complete the conversation.

Claire: Oh, Henry. You're giving me another present. It's very sweet of you, but I wish (▶) *you wouldn't give me* so many presents.

Henry: Claire, I've been thinking. I shouldn't have asked you to marry me. I wish now that (1)

Claire: Now you're talking nonsense. I wish (2), Henry.

Henry: I'm not a young man, am I? Of course I wish (3)

Claire: Why don't you listen? If only (4) to me just this once.

Henry: Why couldn't we have met twenty years ago? I wish (5) you then.

Claire: Henry, twenty years ago I was just starting school.