

TEACHING REGRETS IN ENGLISH; THE LANGUAGE “WHAT IF”

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Abstract: Generally, regrets are a common human experience. People have moments in their lives where they wish they had done particular things differently. Teaching and learning how to express regrets effectively and correctly in English is vital for both practical conversation and emotional expression. This article will explore and provide teaching tips for the grammar of regret by providing examples of various regret structures including with offering practical teaching methods.

Key words: regrets, wishes, structures and teaching methods.

Аннотация: В целом, сожаления являются распространенным человеческим опытом. У людей бывают моменты в их жизни, когда они жалеют о том, что поступили определенным образом иначе. Обучение и изучение того, как эффективно и правильно выражать сожаления на английском языке, имеет жизненно важное значение как для практического общения, так и для эмоционального выражения. В этой статье будут рассмотрены и предоставлены советы по обучению грамматике выражения сожаления, приведены примеры различных структур сожаления, а также предложены практические методы обучения.

Ключевые слова: сожаления, пожелания, структуры и методы обучения.

Introduction:

Before explaining topic, teachers are supposed to ask their students whether they had felt sorry for something and were sad about or disappointed in something they did or did not do. When students will reply, teachers have to ask students how they express their regrets and wishes in English grammar, what kinds of structures they use. After questioning them, it is suggested to provide the whole structure of expressing the regret structure and formulas. Here are structures and formulas to express regrets:

- To talk about the present, we use wish + past tense.

He wishes he was a bit younger;

I wish I could live in Dubai;

I wish it was not that difficult.

- To express regrets about the past, we use wish + past perfect.

I wish I had not written so much;

I think Safiya wishes she had studied maths.

- We use wish + person or thing + would to talk about things we want to happen or change in the future. It is often used to express annoyance or dissatisfaction.

I wish he would stop being toxic;

I think she wishes his spouse would be generous.

- We can use if instead of wish in all these situations. If only is commonly more powerful than wish.

If only we had more money;

If only I had spoken to her!

After explaining each structure, teachers have to make students form their sentences by using the structure which have been mentioned above.

Conclusion:

All in all, all human beings make mistake and regret in their lives. We all want to change those things that we had done. This article has provided structures and formulas for expressing regrets. Additionally, this article has given right teaching strategies for teachers and students.

Reference:

1. Krantz, C., & Roberts, R. Navigate coursebook, Upper-Intermediate B2 (p. 159). Wish and If only. Oxford University Press.