

Exercises

39.1 Put the verb into the correct form.

- 1 If I knew (I / know) his number, I would phone him.
- 2 I wouldn't buy (I / not / buy) that coat if I were you.
- 3 I would help (I / help) you if I could, but I'm afraid I can't.
- 4 We don't need a car at present, but we would need a car if we lived (we / live) in the country.
- 5 If we had the choice, we would live (we / live) in the country.
- 6 This soup isn't very good. It would taste (it / taste) better if it wasn't so salty.
- 7 I wouldn't mind living in England if the weather was (be) better.
- 8 If I were you, I would wait (I / not / wait). I would go (I / go) now.
- 9 You're always tired. If you didn't go to bed so late every night (you / not / go) to bed so late every night, you wouldn't be tired all the time.
- 10 I think there are too many cars. If there were not so many cars (there / not / be) so many cars, there would not be so much pollution (there / not / be) so much pollution.

39.2 Write a sentence with **if** ... for each situation.

- 1 We don't see you very often because you live so far away.
If you didn't live so far away, we'd see you more often.
- 2 It's a nice book but it's too expensive, so I'm not going to buy it.
I would buy it if it was cheaper.
- 3 We don't go out very often – we can't afford it.
We would go out more often if we had more money.
- 4 I can't meet you tomorrow – I have to work late.
If I didn't have to work late, I could meet you tomorrow.
- 5 It would be nice to have lunch outside but it's raining, so we can't.
We would have lunch outside if it wasn't raining.
- 6 I don't want his advice, and that's why I'm not going to ask for it.
If I asked for his advice, I would take it.

39.3 Write sentences beginning **I wish** ...

- 1 I don't know many people (and I'm lonely). I wish I knew more people.
- 2 I don't have a computer (and I need one). I wish I had a computer.
- 3 Helen isn't here (and I need to see her). I wish Helen was here.
- 4 It's cold (and I hate cold weather). I wish it was warmer.
- 5 I live in a big city (and I don't like it). I wish I lived in a small town.
- 6 I can't go to the party (and I'd like to). I wish I could go to the party.
- 7 I have to get up early tomorrow (but I'd like to sleep late). I wish I didn't have to get up so early.
- 8 I don't know anything about cars (and my car has just broken down). I wish I knew more about cars.
- 9 I'm not feeling well (and it's not nice). I wish I was feeling better.

39.4 Write your own sentences beginning **I wish** ...

- 1 (somewhere you'd like to be now – on the beach, in New York, in bed etc.)
I wish I was on the beach.
- 2 (something you'd like to have – a motorbike, more friends, lots of money etc.)
I wish I had more friends.
- 3 (something you'd like to be able to do – sing, travel more, cook etc.)
I wish I could sing.
- 4 (something you'd like to be – beautiful, strong, younger etc.)
I wish I was younger.