If I had known ...   I wish I had known ...

A

Study this example situation:

Last month Gary was in hospital for a few days. Rachel didn't know this, so she didn't go to visit him. They met a few days ago.
Rachel said:

If I'd known you were in hospital, I **would have gone** to see you.

Rachel said: **If I'd known** (= If I **had** known) you were in hospital. This tells us that she *didn't* know.

We use **if + had** (**'d**) ... to talk about the past (**if I had known/been/done** etc.):
- ○ I didn't see you when you passed me in the street. **If I'd seen** you, of course I would have said hello.   (but I didn't see you)
- ○ I didn't go out last night. I would have gone out **if I hadn't been** so tired.   (but I was tired)
- ○ **If** he **had been looking** where he was going, he wouldn't have walked into the wall.   (but he wasn't looking)
- ○ The view was wonderful. **If I'd had** a camera with me, I would have taken some pictures.   (but I didn't have a camera)

Compare:
- ○ I'm not hungry. **If** I **was** hungry, I would eat something.   *(now)*
- ○ I wasn't hungry. **If** I **had been** hungry, I would have eaten something.   *(past)*

B

Do not use **would** in the **if**-part of the sentence. We use **would** in the other part of the sentence:
- ○ **If** I **had seen** you, I **would have said** hello.   (*not* If I would have seen you)

Note that **'d** can be **would** or **had**:
- ○ If I**'d seen** you,   (I**'d** seen = I **had** seen)
- ○ I**'d have said** hello.   (I**'d** have said = I **would** have said)

C

We use **had** (**done**) in the same way after **wish**. I **wish** something **had happened** = I am sorry that it didn't happen:
- ○ I **wish I'd known** that Gary was ill. I would have gone to see him.   (but I didn't know)
- ○ I feel sick. I **wish** I **hadn't eaten** so much cake.   (I ate too much cake)
- ○ Do you **wish** you**'d studied** science instead of languages?   (you didn't study science)

Do not use **would have** ... after **wish**:
- ○ The weather was cold when we were on holiday. I wish it **had been** warmer.   (*not* I wish it would have been)

D

Compare **would** (**do**) and **would have** (**done**):
- ○ If I'd gone to the party last night, I **would be** tired now.   (I am not tired now – *present*)
- ○ If I'd gone to the party last night, I **would have met** lots of people.   (I didn't meet lots of people – *past*)

Compare **would have**, **could have** and **might have**:
- ○ If the weather hadn't been so bad, { we **would have gone** out.
  we **could have gone** out.
  (= we would have been able to go out)
  we **might have gone** out.
  (= perhaps we would have gone out) }