Functions: Expressing Wish and Regret

EXPRESSING WISH

Form:

> **If only / I wish + <u>simple past</u>**

Example:

If only I **had** a million dollar. (I don't a million dollar and I would like to be a millionaire)

Use:

- To express a wish in the present or in the future.
- The simple past here is an unreal past.
- When you use the verb to be the form is "were".
  Example:
  I wish I **were** rich!

EXAMPLES
- I wish I lived in San Francesco.
- If only I traveled to Australia.

EXPRESSING REGRET

Form:

> **If only / I wish + <u>past perfect</u>**

Example:

If only I **had passed** the exam. (I didn't work hard, so I didn't pass the exam.)

Use:

- To express a regret.
- The action is past.

EXAMPLES
- I wish I had been careful while driving.
- If only I had told him the truth.