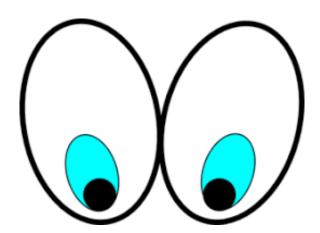
When using if (or wish),
use were
and not was.



"If I were you,
I would
remember this."

Verbs (Five Properties). Mood

Are you in a good mood? Yes! Well, that mood refers to emotions. Mood, also known as mode, in grammar shows how the action is viewed by the speaker. The three moods* we will discuss are the indicative, imperative and subjunctive.

- 1) Indicative- "What is indicative? The indicative mood asks a question, makes a statement or expresses an opinion as if it were a fact. It is reality based and the most common mood."
- 2) Imperative- makes a request or gives a command.

"Please read the rest of this page. If not, I will make you write 100 imperative statements!"

Sometimes the pronoun "you" is implied in this 2nd person command, "Go home."

3) Subjunctive- something that is not true or you wish would happen (imaginary).

Correct: If I were you... Incorrect: If I was you...

Correct: If she were a billionaire, she would buy...

It would be incorrect to say, "I wish I <u>was</u> wealthy." The correct way to say it, "I wish I <u>were</u> wealthy." When using *if* or *wish*, I recommend using *were*.

Spanish is strict with subjunctive (imaginary situations, demands and suggestions). English is quite relaxed.

Rarely, will you hear someone say, "I recommend that he <u>arrive</u> at the museum early." No "s" in the verb *arrive* because the "s" is eliminated from the third-person singular!

^{*} Depending on one's viewpoint, other moods do exist (infinitive, interrogative, conditional, etc).

Ask your classmates, "If you were the wealthiest person alive, what would you do?"



"I wish you were the wealthiest person alive!"



Remember, when using if or wish, use were and not was.



Mood part 3

Subjunctive- something that isn't true or you wish would happen (imaginary).

- 1. If I (was, were) _____ you, I would learn the basics of the subjunctive mood.
- 2. They wish you (was, were) _____ knowledgeable of other ways to make a sentence subjunctive. (A demand, suggestion, etc.)
- 3. I wish she (was, were) _____ aware that the words "wish" and "if" are not always used in a subjunctive sentence.
- 4. If it (was, were) ____ up to me, I would use the verb "was" just like the past tense.
- 5. *If* he (was, were) _____ the ruler of grammar, the subjunctive mood would be abolished!

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