

Subjunctive Verb Forms

What does it mean?

We use the subjunctive when we express intention, desire, doubt, supposition, hypothesis or proposal about the future. It can also be used to express a command or duty. It often contains the verbs 'be' and 'were' and most commonly contains the conjunction 'if'.

If I **were** hungry, I would have some food.

When we use the subjunctive mood, we want something to happen, we anticipate something will happen or we imagine something happening. We usually see modal verbs such as should, could and would in these sentences.



Complete the sentence below so that it uses the **subjunctive form**.

If I _____ to have one wish, it would be for good health.

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All of the sentences below are written in the subjunctive form. Highlight the verbs that tell you that this is correct.

If I **were** a teacher, I would give him a detention!

If she were not so mean, I would be her friend.

If I were to sit here for hours, I would get bored.

I could eat two cakes if I were really hungry!

I wish I were able to run fast.

If I were the king, I would make Monday a day of rest!

The policeman demanded that he be quiet.

It is essential that they be allowed into the school.

I wish that break time were longer.

If Reece were here, we could play football.

I could go to the shops later if I were to finish work on time.