

After reading

Task 1: Find the following ways of expressing preference in the text and complete them using Joe's words.

1. I wish people...	1. I'd rather people
2. I'd prefer people...	4. I'd sooner people...
5. I'd prefer people...	rather...

Task 2: Read the grammar rules and complete them with the correct verb from the box. You can use each word several times. Use the examples from the reading to help you.

prefer	rather	sooner	wish
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Expressing preference

There are several different ways of expressing preference and the verb patterns vary.

1 Subject + would + ¹_____ + object + full infinitive (+ ²_____ + than + bare infinitive)

I'd ³_____ you (not) to arrive early.

I'd ⁴_____ you to arrive early ⁵_____ than be late.

2 Subject + would + ⁶_____ or ⁷_____ + object + past tense or Subject + would + ⁸_____ + bare infinitive.

I'd ⁹_____ you didn't do that. / I'd ¹⁰_____ you didn't do that.

I'd ¹¹_____ not do that.

3 Subject + ¹²_____ + object + would(n't) + bare infinitive

I ¹³_____ he wouldn't leave his socks on the floor.

Which form is used to express some annoyance as well as a preference?

Task 3: Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using the word in CAPITALS.

1 Please don't shout. YOU

I'd rather _____

2 I don't want him to buy me presents all the time. SOONER

I'd _____

3 Lucy would rather go to the cinema than the theatre. RATHER

Lucy would prefer _____

4 I'd really rather you didn't whistle all the time. WOULDN'T

I _____

5 I really fancy eating Chinese food tonight. PREFER

I'd _____

6 They would sooner you didn't use your mobile at the dinner table. WISH

They _____

7 I don't really want to go out tonight. RATHER

I'd _____

Task 4: Annoying habits

Working in pairs, make a list of 5–10 things other people sometimes do that you find annoying.
For example, interrupting you when you're speaking.

Task 5: Grammar Practice

For each example in your list, write 2 different ways of saying that you would prefer them to behave differently. E.g. I'd rather you didn't interrupt me when I'm speaking/ I'd prefer you not to interrupt me when I'm speaking.