

## Episode 056 – Grammar

### 1. The subjunctive II forms of "haben" and "sein"

The subjunctive II is used to express wishful thinking or situations that are contrary to reality. It can also be used to make requests and suggestions sound especially polite.

The verbs "haben" and "sein" have their own form in the subjunctive II.

	<b>sein</b>	<b>haben</b>
ich	<i>wäre</i>	<i>hätte</i>
du	<i>wärst</i>	<i>hättest</i>
er/sie/es	<i>wäre</i>	<i>hätte</i>
wir	<i>wären</i>	<i>hätten</i>
ihr	<i>wärt</i>	<i>hättet</i>
sie	<i>wären</i>	<i>hätten</i>

Examples:

**Hätten** Sie Zeit für mich?

Was **wäre** dir lieber: Tee oder Kaffee?

# Harry – gefangen in der Zeit

Begleitmaterialien

## 2. Forming the subjunctive II using "würde" + the infinitive

Usually there is no way to differentiate between the past indicative and the subjunctive II forms of regular verbs. So frequently, "würde" + the infinitive is simply used instead.

Infinitive	Past indicative	Subjunctive II		würde + infinitive
<i>sich lohnen</i>	<i>es lohnte sich</i>	<i>es lohnte sich</i>	→	<i>es <b>würde</b> sich lohnen</i>
<i>kaufen</i>	<i>sie kauften</i>	<i>sie kauften</i>	→	<i>sie <b>würden</b> kaufen</i>

Examples:

*Der Lotto-Jackpot **würde** sich lohnen.*

*Was **würden** Sie mit 10 Millionen Euro **machen**?*

*Ich **würde** einen Sportwagen **kaufen**.*

The forms of "würde" are the same as the subjunctive II forms of "werden":

ich	<i>würde</i>
du	<i>würdest</i>
er/sie/es	<i>würde</i>
wir	<i>würden</i>
ihr	<i>würdet</i>
sie	<i>würden</i>

## 3. Hypothetical condition clauses with "wenn"

A subordinate clause introduced by the word "wenn" usually describes a condition for an action or the consequence described by the independent clause. Such sentences are known as conditional sentences. Clauses that begin with "wenn" answer the question "Unter welcher Bedingung?" (under what condition?). You've already learned about factual conditional clauses with "wenn", which are used when the condition and resulting action are predictable. In those cases the present tense is used in both the independent clause and the subordinate clause. Sometimes the future tense is used in the independent clause.

Example:

***Wenn** du die Karte nicht abstempelst, dann ist sie nicht gültig.*

(= **Unter welcher Bedingung** ist die Karte nicht gültig? - **Wenn** du sie nicht abstempelst.)

A hypothetical condition clause describes a condition that may or may not be possible but is not factual. It exists only in the mind of the speaker. It can refer to something in the past, present or future. These clauses are formed by using the subjunctive II or its alternative, "würde" + the infinitive.

In a counterfactual conditional complex sentence, the subjunctive II is usually used in both the main and subordinate clauses. The subordinate clause contains the condition and is introduced by the word "wenn". A comma separates it from the independent clause.

Examples:

*Ich **wäre** glücklich, **wenn** du Deutsch **lernen würdest!***

*Was **würden** Sie **machen**, **wenn** Sie das Geld **hätten?***

***Wenn** ich die 10 Millionen **hätte**, **würde** ich Bücher **schreiben**.*