Subjunctive [假设语气](http://www.mdbg.net/chindict/chindict.php?page=worddict&wdrst=0&wdqb=Subjunctive) [jiǎ​shè​yǔ​qì​](http://www.mdbg.net/chindict/chindict.php?page=worddict&wdrst=0&wdqb=Subjunctive)

The subjunctive is for events that are not certain to happen.

* Events that we want to happen
* Events that we hope will happen
* Events we imagine happening

The teacher asks that you **be** ready for the test.

It is important that you **be** ready for the test.

If you **were** ready for the test, that would be great!

I wish he were able to type faster.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Singular | |  | Plural | |
| 1st person | I was 🡪were (subjunctive) |  | 1rd person | We were |
| 2nd person | You were |  | 2nd person | You were |
| 3rd person | He,she,it was 🡪were (subjunctive) |  | 3rd person | They were |

We usually use the subjunctive **were** instead of "**was**" after “if.”

If I were you, I’d study before the test.

If she were here, we could ask her.

The subjunctive for the present tense third person singular **drops** the -s or -es so that it looks and sounds like the present tense for everything else.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Singular | |  | Plural | |
| 1st person | I walk |  | 1rd person | We |
| 2nd person | You walk |  | 2nd person | You |
| 3rd person | He, she, it walk**s** |  | 3rd person | They |

I wish he would walk more often.

He recommended that each student walk to school.

The subjunctive is used after the following verbs:

ask, demand, determine, insist, move, order, pray, prefer, recommend, regret, request, require, suggest, and wish

Words like: would, could, should, if… tell you the subjunctive is used.

They are called conditional auxiliary verbs

Subjunctive: I wish he were nicer to me.

Conditional: I wish he would be kinder to me.