

Would Like vs. Would Rather

Medium

A2 | Elementary | Pre-intermediate

Modal verb

English Grammar Basics

1. Fill in the blanks to complete the dramatic college student's email to their parents.

"I know you would like _____ medicine, but I would rather you _____ my dream of becoming a professional mime."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) me to study
- B) that I study
- C) me study

Blank 2

- A) supported
- B) support
- C) to support

2. Help the cowardly knight politely decline the king's dangerous quests by choosing the right phrases for each gap in his speech.

"Your Majesty, I would rather _____ the fire-breathing dragon today," Sir Reginald mumbled nervously.

"If given the choice, I _____ to stay inside the castle walls and polish the royal silverware."

"Actually, I would rather the court wizard _____ all the dangerous monsters from now on."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) not fight
- B) to not fight
- C) not fighting

Blank 2

- A) would like
- B) would rather
- C) like

Blank 3

- A) handled
- B) handles
- C) to handle

3. Complete the vampire's strict roommate agreement by choosing the correct words for each blank.

"First of all, I would rather you _____ any local garlic farmers over to our apartment," Vlad stated firmly.

"Instead, I would like you _____ me at least three hours before bringing any guests home."

"Finally, I would rather _____ in my cozy coffin than on that uncomfortable modern futon you bought."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) didn't invite
- B) don't invite
- C) not invite

Blank 2

- A) to warn
- B) warn
- C) warned

Blank 3

- A) sleep
- B) to sleep
- C) slept

4. Help the indecisive couple plan their Friday night by choosing the correct verb forms for each gap in their conversation.

"I am starving! I would like _____ a massive pizza with extra cheese," Mark said, staring hungrily at his phone.

"Really? I know it's Friday, but I would rather _____ a healthy salad tonight," Sarah replied.

Mark sighed. "Fine, but if we stay in and eat leaves, I would like you _____ an action movie for us to watch."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) to order
- B) order
- C) ordering

Blank 2

- A) cook
- B) to cook
- C) cooking

Blank 3

- A) to pick
- B) pick
- C) picking

5. Choose the correct phrase to complete the movie star's dramatic declaration.

"I _____ not do my own stunts today," the pampered actor announced, sipping his latte. "My hair looks far too good to be ruined by a helicopter explosion."

Select one.

- A) would like
- B) would rather
- C) prefer
- D) want

6. Complete the roommate's panicked text message about an unwanted eight-legged guest.

"I would rather _____ with the giant spider in the bathtub right now. Honestly, I'd like _____ it simply doesn't exist until you get home."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) not deal
- B) not to deal
- C) don't deal

Blank 2

- A) to pretend
- B) pretend
- C) pretending

7. Complete the passive-aggressive sticky note left by a frustrated roommate. Select ALL the options that correctly express their preference for your behavior.

Select all that apply.

- A) I would rather you washed your dishes right after eating.
- B) I would like you to wash your dishes right after eating.
- C) I would rather you to wash your dishes right after eating.
- D) I would like that you wash your dishes right after eating.

8. Help the picky diner place his complicated order by choosing the correct verb forms.

"Good evening, waiter! I would like _____ the truffle fries as a starter, but my friend would rather _____ room for his triple-chocolate dessert."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- A) to order
- B) order
- C) ordering

Blank 2

- A) save
- B) to save
- C) saving

9. Complete the picky eater's polite, yet firm, refusal.

"I appreciate the generous offer of deep-fried tarantula, but I would rather _____ a simple garden salad, if that's okay!"

Select one.

- A) to have
- B) having
- C) have
- D) had

10. Help the long-suffering roommate express his preference.

"Your kazoo playing is certainly... unique," sighed Mark. "But I would rather you _____ practicing until I finish studying for my finals."

Select one.

- A) delay
- B) delayed
- C) to delay
- D) will delay