

NASTY WRITING!

The subjunctive



If I were
a boy...!

When Beyoncé sings about imagining she were a boy, she correctly uses the subjunctive!

Normally, after 'I', you would say, 'I was...' ('I was tired yesterday'), but when we are using the subjunctive, we use 'were' instead.

The subjunctive is often used to talk about situations that are not real, and often after phrases such as 'I wish', 'as if', 'if', and 'if only'...

You will often hear people not using it though, especially when they are speaking informally. It is used more in formal speech and writing.

Write 4-6 sentences that use the subjunctive form – use the sentence starters below:

If I were

I wish my school were

If only my bedroom were

If I were you, I'd *(often used to give advice!)*

I wish I

If only I

If my home