

wealthy

wealth

A person's **wealth** is the amount of money they have (but it is only used if the amount of money is large). If a person (or a town or a country) is **wealthy** it means they are rich. As with 'rich' ("the rich"), we can use **wealthy** as a *noun*: "Life is easy for **the wealthy**".

- Gross national Product (GNP) is one way of measuring a country's wealth. GNP is the total value of goods and services sold in a year.
- The present government was elected on the basis of its promise to encourage enterprise and to spread wealth more fairly through all levels of society.

We also describe something or someone as a **wealth of + something** when they can provide plenty of it.

- There has been a re-awakening of the Arts and the last few years have produced a wealth of creative contemporary plays and songs.
- For hikers, whether you prefer the leisurely or the tough, Slovenia's Triglav National Park offers a wealth of opportunities.

*How important is personal wealth to you?*

*Who's your wealthiest relative? -*

*Do they display their wealth? -*

*Do they enjoy their wealth?*

to involve

to be involved in

involvement

To **involve** can mean 'to consist' or 'to include'. For example, when we say that a job **involves** certain things it means that they are part of the job; they are what the job consists of.

- "My job basically involves trying to prevent problems happening and trying to solve those that can't be avoided."
- "Bringing up young children involves a lot of hard work and patience. It can be a bit like fighting a war."
- Homeopathic Medicine involves the use of tiny doses for treatment.

d) **if + past perfect or past perfect continuous + would do**

- If you had listened more carefully to what I was saying earlier on you would have no trouble understanding what I'm telling you now.

Look at these examples where the **if clause** refers to a **past situation or event** but the **consequence clause** refers to a **present situation**:

- If it hadn't rained so much last night the garden would be dry enough for us to have a picnic for lunch. (The soaked lawn is now. The rain was last night.)
- If you had followed my advice you wouldn't be in this mess now.
- Do you think that if my parents had spent more time with me when I was a boy I might be a different person now?

e) **if + past perfect + would have done (might / could have done)**

- If you had listened more carefully to my lessons you would have understood the questions in yesterday's test.

Look at these examples of **if constructions** when both *the situation or event* and *the consequence* are in the past:

- If it hadn't rained so hard yesterday we would have managed to go for a picnic. What a waste of a Sunday that was! (The rain was yesterday and so was the picnic we had planned.)
- Do you think that if my parents had spent more time with me I might have grown up as a different kind of person?
- Sorry about last weekend. If I had been feeling better I would have given you a hand.
- I'm so sorry! If Mark had mentioned you were ill I would have come to visit you sooner.

Mel: \$379 for the round trip? That sounds expensive.

Joe: It is. If we had remembered to book in advance we could have saved at least \$100 each.

f) Look at these pairs of sentences. Explain the different circumstances:

- If I had not been trained in this way, I wouldn't have survived in the job for very long.
- If I hadn't been trained in this way I wouldn't be able to survive in this job for very long.

might as well

may as well

We use the expression **may as well** or **might as well** when we *suggest* doing something with little or no enthusiasm. We normally say that we **may as well do** or **might as well do** something when we realise that what we had wanted or expected to happen, won't happen.

Ann: Look at this weather! Who's going to come on the walking tour on a day like this?

Sue: Yes, we may as well just text everyone to call it off.

Ann: Yes, I guess so.

Sue: Oh no, Bob. You forgot to turn the pan off. Look at this pasta now!

Bob: Have I spoiled it?

Sue: Well, I'm not going to eat it.

Bob: I suppose I may as well give it to the cat then.

We also use the phrase **may as well** or **might as well** when one thing or one situation is so similar to another that it hardly makes any difference.

- Garhndu in the mountainous far west of the region is just 300 kms from the capital but for the people here it might as well be a million miles away.

Sue: I can't believe this! Spain's supposed to be warm and sunny. This is the third day in a row it's poured down.

Bob: We might as well be back in England. What a disappointment!

Dan: Well? What did she say?

Pat: No idea.

Dan: I thought you spoke some Russian.

Pat: I thought I did too. It was all right during lessons at school but here they speak so fast I don't understand a word. They might as well be speaking Greek.

We can use **may as well** and **might as well** in the *past*:

Sue: What a let-down that concert was!

Bob: I know. And I was really looking forward to it.

Sue: We may as well have stayed at home and listened to the CD.