

## **WEEK 24 – LESSON: EXPRESSING WISHES AND DESIRES WITH THE CONDITIONAL FORM + INFINITIVE**

**Goal:** By the end of this lesson, you should be able to express wishes and desires in French by using the verbs VOULOIR or AIMER in the conditional form followed by another verb in the infinitive form.

The previous lesson was about expressing wishes and desires with the subjunctive form. Example: Je voudrais **que tu finisses** ton devoir. (*I would like you to finish your homework.*) In order to do that, we used the conditional form of the verb VOULOIR (voudrais in our example) + the subjunctive finisses (from the second-group verb *finir*). Today, we will still expand on the topic of wishes and desires and express them with the infinitive form instead of the subjunctive. *N'ayez pas peur!* (Don't be afraid!). This following lesson is, I believe, easier than the last one ☺. But don't hesitate to let me know your personal opinion by emailing me at [prof\\_moderator@frenchtasticpeople.com](mailto:prof_moderator@frenchtasticpeople.com) . Now, back to our French lesson!

### **I WOULD LIKE TO + VERB → JE VOUDRAIS + VERB (INFINITIVE)**

It is very easy to express wishes and desires in French by combining the conditional and the infinitive of a verb.

We now know how to conjugate the verb VOULOIR (to want) in the French conditional form (See previous lesson (week 23) at <http://frenchtasticpeople.com/w23.pdf> . Add the infinitive of ANY French verb to VOULOIR in the conditional and you obtain expressions such as:

- Je voudrais manger ce gâteau → I would like to eat this cake.
- Melissa voudrait boire de l'eau → Melissa would like to drink some water.
- Sachiko et Herman voudraient épargner de l'argent → Sachiko and Herman would like to save some money.
- Elles ne voudraient pas perdre ce match de foot. → They would not like to lose this soccer game. (Hellooo, don't panic! All we did here was just add the negation NE...PAS to the sentence. We covered the negation a while ago. The lesson is still available online at <http://www.frenchtasticpeople.com/w511.pdf> (Week 5 - Lesson 1)

**And our formula is...**

**Subject + VOULOIR in the conditional form + Verb in the infinitive form + rest of sentence (optional).**

Please note that in lieu of the verb VOULOIR, you can also use the verb AIMER (to like) in the conditional form, and you will obtain the exact same result. AIMER belongs to the first group (ER), and in order to conjugate it in the conditional form you simply need to

add these following endings to the infinitive AIMER: (The same rule applies to all other ER verb except ALLER)

J'aimer**AIS** → I would like

Tu aimer**AIS** → You would like

Il/Elle aimer**AIT** → He/She would like

Nous aimer**IONS** → We would like

Vous aimer**IEZ** → You would like

Ils/Elles aimer**AIENT** → They would like

So this is the end of our lesson. I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. I will post an exercise shortly to help you practice all that has been taught here. Merci!

Herman