

KONSTRUKCJE „HAD BETTER” ORAZ „WOULD RATHER”

HAD BETTER = SHOULD

1. I had better + present bare infinitive (present/future reference)
He had better not wait any longer. (= He should not wait any longer.)
2. I would have been better if + Past Perfect (past reference)
It would have been better if he had phoned us to tell us not to wait. (= He should have phoned us to tell us not to wait.)

WOULD RATHER = I'D PREFER

1. When the subject of would rather is also the subject of the following verb:

- a) I'd rather + Present bare infinitive (present / future reference)
- b) I'd rather + Perfect bare infinitive (past reference)

ad a) I'd rather stay in tonight.

ad b) I'd rather not have taken the bus, but I had no choice.

2. When the subject of would rather is different from the subject of the following verb:

- a) I'd rather sb + Past Simple (present / future reference)
- b) I'd rather sb + Past Perfect (past reference)

ad a) I'd rather you didn't shout so much.

ad b) I'd rather you had come with me yesterday.

Exercise A. Read the following situations, then make sentences using “would rather” or “had better”.

1. You want to play tennis not squash.
2. You don't want her to invite him to the party.
3. You want to be left alone to read and don't want to go to the cinema.
4. It would be more sensible for you to go and rest for an hour.
5. I would prefer to spend Christmas in Spain and not go home.
6. We should have waited for him at home.
7. Mary always wears horrible orange lipstick. You wish she wouldn't.
8. Your friend turns up late and you are angry with him.