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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