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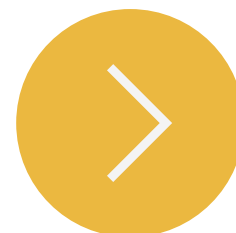
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VERBS L14.2 – B1 THE SUBJUNCTIVE 2 (KONJUNKTIV 2)

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COMPARISON: INDIKATIV VS. KONJUNKTIV 2

The Indikativ (indicative) form describes the real world. → What is actually happening?

- „Ich **bin** ein Millionär.“

The Konjunktiv 2 describes the unreal world. → This world doesn't exist. It contains wishes and dreams.

- „Ich **wäre** so gern ein Millionär.“

USE OF THE KONJUNKTIV 2

1. We use Konjunktiv 2 for unreal conditions:

These are things that definitely or probably aren't happening, didn't happen, or wouldn't happen in the real world.

- „Auch wenn ich reich **wäre**, **würde** ich den Ring nicht **kaufen**.“
(= I am not rich. → unreal / unlikely)
- „Wenn du mehr Sport **gemacht hättest**, **wärst** du nicht so dick.“
(= In the past, so it cannot be changed. → unreal / not possible)

2. We use Konjunktiv 2 for wishes and dreams:

It shows the opposite of reality, and we often use it with the particles "bloß", "doch" and "nur".

- „Ach, wenn ich nur nicht so dick **wäre**!“
(= I can't get thin overnight. → unreal)
- „Ach, wenn ich doch keinen Alkohol **getrunken hätte**.“
(= A wish about something that has happened in the past. → unreal.)

3. We use Konjunktiv 2 for unreal comparisons:

These are comparisons to things that aren't real or true. The conjunctions that express this are: "als ob" and "als wenn."

- „Ich fühle mich, als ob ich krank **wäre**."
(= In reality, I'm not sick. → not real)
- „Sie tut so, als ob sie mich nicht **kennen würde**."
(She pretends not to know me, but she actually does know me. → not real)

CONSTRUCTION (PAST)

How do we form the Konjunktiv 2 form in the past?

1. Put the verb in Perfekt (perfect tense):

- „Ich **habe** das Spiel **gesehen**.“

2. Put the helping verb in Konjunktiv 2.

- „Ich **hätte** das Spiel **gesehen**.“

The Partizip 2 (past participle) remains the same.

Further Examples:

- „Ich **hätte** das Geschirr **abgewaschen**, wenn ich Zeit **gehabt hätte**.“
- „Du **wärst** nicht zu spät **gekommen**, wenn du eher **aufgestanden wärst**.“
- „Du **hättest** die Prüfung **bestanden**, wenn du mehr **gelernt hättest**.“

WORD ORDER

Main Clause	Subordinate Clause		
Sie würde dich heiraten ,	wenn	du viel Geld	hättest .

Everything is as usual if the main clause is in front of the subordinate clause: the conjugated verb in the main clause is in position 2, and the conjugated verb in the subordinate clause goes to the end.

Subordinate Clause			Main Clause	
<u>Wenn</u>	du viel Geld	hättest ,	würde	sie dich heiraten .

Hättest

du viel Geld,

würdesie dich **heiraten**.

If the subordinate clause is in front of the main clause, we have two options. First, if we use the conjunction "wenn" everything is normal (The verb goes to the end of the subordinate clause and the verb in the main clause comes right after the comma).

Second, in spoken language, we use this second variation without "wenn". The verb goes to the first position. If the main clause is in front of the subordinate clause, we cannot omit "wenn".

The 2nd version is usually used in situations like this:

Anna: „Mama, ich bin durch die Deutschprüfung gefallen.“

Annas Mama: „**Hättest** du mal mehr **gelernt**.“

Anna's mom is saying that Anna should have studied for the test. We use this version if we want to say that someone should have done something different in the past (The main clause is omitted because it's obvious).

Why? It's shorter!

- „Wenn du mehr **gelernt hättest**, **wärest** du nicht durch die Deutschprüfung **gefallen**.“

SUMMARY

- We use the Konjunktiv 2 to be polite, to express wishes, and for everything that is UNREAL.
- To talk about the past, we only have the perfect tense (Perfekt). No Präteritum or Plusquamperfekt exists.
- If the subordinate clause is in front of the main clause, we can omit the conjunction "wenn" and start with the verb.

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