

FUNCTION: Expressing Regret

My friend Amine is a highly qualified young Moroccan engineer. He graduated from a famous engineering school in Marrakech. He managed to find a job in a company in Casablanca. Yet, he wasn't satisfied with his salary. Consequently, he decided to emigrate to Canada. As soon as he got there, he felt homesick and his integration in a new culture seemed to be quite impossible. During our last Skype video chat he told me: **“if only I had stayed in my country. I should have looked for a better job there.”**

FUNCTION: Expressing Regret about Past Events

If only + past perfect

If only I had stayed in my country.

should have + past participle

I should have looked for a better job there.

If + past perfect + would + verb

**If I had looked for a better job in Morocco,
I would be happy now.**

FUNCTION: Expressing Regret about Past Events

Express regret about these situations.

- **I missed the bus because I got up late.**
- **I can't buy a new phone because I didn't save money.**
- **I had a terrible score because I didn't prepare for exams.**

