


Lesson 8

Verb Moods

CCSS

L.8.1c: Form and use verbs in the indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive mood.

 **Introduction** **Verb moods** indicate the writer's view as to whether a statement is a fact, a command, a question, a possibility, or something that is contrary to fact.

Verb Mood	Example
Indicative expresses a fact or opinion.	The election will be on Tuesday.
Imperative gives a command, omitting the subject.	Remember to vote.
Interrogative asks a question.	Have you met all the candidates?
Conditional expresses a possibility or uncertainty, often using <i>could</i> , <i>would</i> , or <i>might</i> .	Kim would make the best president.
Subjunctive expresses something contrary to fact, or makes a suggestion, using a <i>that</i> clause.	I wish Tyler were a candidate. I recommend <u>that</u> you vote for Kim.

- When you use the subjunctive mood with a singular subject, use the plural verb form in most cases. If the verb is *be*, use the past plural, *were*, when expressing something contrary to fact.

I suggest that he **join** (not *joins*) the campaign.

Jenna acts as if she **were** (not *was* or *is*) already president.

- When a main clause uses conditional words like *would* or *might*, these words are often unnecessary in the subordinate clause and should be avoided.

I **would have** voted for Maya if she **had** (not *would have*) asked me.



Guided Practice

Rewrite each sentence, changing the mood as indicated in parentheses.

Hint

You can combine a subordinate clause that is subjunctive with a main clause that is conditional.

Example:

If I were you, I would register to vote.

1 If it is not too late, I will vote. (subjunctive and conditional; see Hint) _____

2 Will you vote for Harry for president? (imperative)

3 He commands the stage like a movie star. (subjunctive, using "as if") _____

4 Harry would be an excellent president. (indicative)
