



# • Would prefer & would rather

- We use the modal expressions “would prefer” and “would rather” to talk about our preferences in English.
- These two expressions mean the same thing and are synonyms to verb “prefer”.

They can be used for **present** or **future** preferences.

**Here are some Examples...**

Present (or general) preferences:

A: Would you prefer coffee or tea?

B: I think I would prefer coffee this morning.



Future preferences:

We would rather live near the beach than the mountains.

OR: We would prefer to live near the beach.



# The **forms** of “would prefer” and “would rather”

## 1. **Would prefer:**

*Would prefer can be used with either a **noun** or a **verb**:*

They would prefer coffee.

**NOUN**



They would prefer to drink coffee.

**N**

**VERB**



**\*\*** Notice that if you use a verb with “would prefer”, the verb is in the **infinitive** form

# The negative of “would prefer”

Use would prefer NOT + infinitive

## Examples...

1. They would prefer NOT to drive because they don't know this area well.
2. She would prefer NOT to take classes at the afternoon. The morning is more convenient for her to study.

# Would rather

“Would rather” can **ONLY** be used with either a **verb**:

They would rather have coffee than tea.

NOT: They would rather ~~coffee~~.

\*\* Notice that the verb that follows “would rather” must be in the simple form (NOT ‘to’).

# The negative of “would rather”

Use would rather NOT + simple form

## Examples...

1. We would rather NOT go out tonight because we have to get up early tomorrow.
2. She would rather NOT buy a house in this area because it's too far from her work.



# Contractions:

We often use contractions with “would prefer” and “would rather”. Pronouns can be contracted with WOULD to make the following:

I would prefer/rather = I'd prefer/I'd rather

We would prefer/rather = We'd prefer/We'd rather

They'd prefer/They'd rather

You'd prefer/You'd rather

He'd prefer/He'd rather

She'd prefer/She'd rather



# More examples:

1. I'd rather visit France than Japan.
2. The students would prefer to do speaking activities in class.
3. We would rather not take a break now.  
Let's take a break later.
4. Sam would prefer not to work on Saturdays because he would like to spend time with his family.





# Practice...

1. Would you prefer to eat Italian food or Chinese food?
2. Would you rather travel to India or China?
3. Would you prefer to work 5 8-hours days or 4 10-hours days?
4. Would you rather have a cat, a fish or a dog?



Which would you prefer?

**\*\*Use the examples in your textbooks, p. 87 ex. 75**



**Taj Mahal**



**Apple Pie**



**Red Wine**



**Great Wall of China**



**Cheesecake**



**White Wine**

**Which would you rather do?**

**Watch TV with**



**your family**



**your friends**

**Relax at**



**hot spring**



**hot spa**