



WOULD RATHER SOONER

We use **would rather/ 'd rather** or **would sooner/ 'd sooner** when we want to say that we prefer one thing to another thing.

WOULD RATHER (common)

Subject + bare infinitive

(subject and doer of the action are the same)

- I would rather work for myself than have a boss.
- I'd rather **not** go out tonight.

Subject + clause + past subjunctive

(subject and doer of the action are different)

It expresses that we'd like someone else to do something.

- I'd rather you didn't smoke in here.
- Would you rather I weren't honest with you?

Subject + clause + past perfect subjunctive

(subject and doer of the action are not the same)

It expresses preferences or wishes about the past.

- I'd rather this whole thing had never happened.
- What would you rather I had done?

MUCH RATHER

We can use **much** with would rather to make the preference stronger.

In speaking, we stress much:

- I'd **much** rather make a phone call than send an email.
- She'd **much** rather they didn't know about what had happened.

WOULD SOONER (less common)

Subject + bare infinitive

(subject and doer of the action are the same)

- I'd sooner die than go out with her.
- I'd sooner **not** talk about it.

Subject + clause + past subjunctive

(subject and doer of the action are different)

It expresses that we'd like someone else to do something.

- I would sooner you came on your own.
- She'd sooner we didn't buy her a new car.

Subject + clause + past perfect subjunctive

(subject and doer of the action are not the same)

It expresses preferences or wishes about the past.

- I'd sooner you had asked me before borrowing the car yesterday.
- I'd sooner you had told me the truth.

WOULD (JUST) AS SOON

1) to prefer to do something (than do something else)

- I'd **just as soon** not have to make this public.

2) Used to say that you would equally well like to do something as do something else that has been suggested.

- I'd **just as soon** stay at home as go out tonight.