

WOULD RATHER vs WOULD SOONER

WOULD RATHER ... (THAN) ... (common)	WOULD SOONER ... (THAN) ... (less common)
<p>Subject + bare infinitive (subject and doer of the action are the same)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I would rather not go out tonight.• I'd rather go by bike than walk.• I would rather work for myself than have a boss.	<p>Subject + bare infinitive (subject and doer of the action are the same)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'd sooner die than go out with her.• I'd sooner give up sleep than miss my evening class.
<p>Subject + clause + past subjunctive (subject and doer of the action are different)</p> <p>It expresses that we'd like someone else to do something.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'd rather you didn't smoke in here.• I'd rather you stayed at home tonight.• Would you rather I weren't honest with you?	<p>Subject + clause + past subjunctive (subject and doer of the action are different)</p> <p>It expresses that we'd like someone else to do something.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I would sooner he returned my camera.• I would sooner you came on your own.• She'd sooner we didn't buy her a new car.
<p>Subject + clause + past perfect subjunctive Expresses preferences or wishes about the past. The subject and doer of the action are not the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'd rather this whole thing had never happened.• What would you rather I had done?	<p>Subject + clause + past perfect subjunctive Expresses preferences or wishes about the past. The subject and doer of the action are not the same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'd sooner you had asked me before borrowing the car yesterday.• I'd sooner you had told me the truth.