

# WOULD RATHER

*Would rather* or *'d rather* is used to talk about preferring one thing to another. It has two different constructions.

## 1. SAME SUBJECT

Positive: I **would rather go** to bed

Negative: I **would rather not eat** in this restaurant

Question: **Would you rather eat** at home **or** in a restaurant?

- When we want to refer to the past, we use **would rather+ have+Past Participle**

**She'd rather have studied** to be a doctor (but she is an engineer)

## 2. DIFFERENT SUBJECT

- We use the Past Simple to refer to the present or future

I would rather / **I'd rather (that) you didn't** speak so loudly.

He would rather/**he'd rather she didn't** drink that much

- We use the Past perfect to talk about the past

I'd rather **she had told** me the truth

## WOULD RATHER ... THAN

we say *would rather ... than*

**I'd rather** drive a hybrid car **than** an electric cart

**She'd rather** phone him **than** write an email

## SHORT RESPONSES WITH WOULD RATHER NOT

Would you like to dance?

**I'd rather not.** Thanks.

## WOULD SOONER= WOULD RATHER

Would rather is much more common