PREFERENCES

ΤΑΥΤΟΠΡΟΣΩΠΙΑ

(Expressing personal preference with 'l'd rather'/ 'l'd sooner')

We can refer to the present or the future:

would rather/would sooner +bare infinitive

eg l'd rather /l'd sooner be a builder than an architect l'd rather watch TV.
l'd rather eat oranges than apples.

We can refer to the past:

would rather/would sooner +have+pp

eg I would rather/would sooner have bought the cheap dress yesterday.

PREFER

would prefer to (full infinitive) +rather than+ bare infinitive

eg l'd prefer to sleep rather than go out.

prefer +gerund/noun to + gerund/noun

eg I prefer swimming to climbing. I prefer oranges to apples.

ΕΤΕΡΟΠΡΟΣΩΠΙΑ

(Expressing preferences about other people's actions with 'l'd rather'/ 'l'd sooner')

To refer to the **present or the future:**

Subject +would rather/would sooner +different subject + Past

eg l'd prefer you to come early tonight =>
l'd rather/ l'd sooner you came early tonight.
I won't be home till very late. l'd sooner you did not wait for me.

To refer to the past:

Subject +would rather/would sooner +different subject + Past Perfect

eg l'd prefer you to have stayed at home last night. => l'd rather/l'd sooner you had stayed at home last night.

He took a risk investing money with them. **I'd rather he** had not done it.

HAD BETTER-SHOULD

To refer to the present or the future:

had better+ bare infinitive

eg He should go to the doctor. **=> He had better go** to the doctor.

To refer to the past:

It would have been better if + Past Perfect

eg You should have drunk less last night. =>
It would have been better if you had drunk less last night.

Like better than

eg I like the summer better than the winter.