

CONDITIONAL CLAUSES

• **We have
four types
of
conditional
s:**

- Zero Conditional
- First Conditional
- Second Conditional
- Third Conditional

Zero Conditional

- 1) Form

In 'zero' conditional sentences, the tense in both parts of the sentence is the simple present:

- **NOTE:** The order of the clauses is not fixed - the 'if' clause can be first or second:

Ice melts if you heat it.

You get wet if it rains.

IF' CLAUSE (CONDITION)	MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)
If + simple present	simple present
If it rains	you get wet

- **2) Function**

In these sentences, the time is *now or always* and the situation is *real and possible*. They are used to make statements about the real world, and often refer to general truths, such as scientific facts.

Examples:

- a) If you freeze water, it becomes a solid.
- b) Plants die if they don't get enough water.
- c) If you mix red and blue, you get purple.
- d) If my husband has a cold, I usually catch it.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

- We are talking about the future. We are thinking about a particular condition or situation in the future, and the result of this condition. There is a real possibility that this condition will happen.

• Form:

IF	condition	result
	present simple	WILL + base verb
If	it rains	I will stay at home.

The second Conditional

Often called the "unreal" conditional because it is used for unreal - impossible or improbable - situations. This conditional provides an imaginary result for a given situation.

Note: The verb 'to be', when used in the 2nd conditional, is always conjugated as 'were'.

IF	condition	result
	past simple	WOULD + base verb
If	I married Mary	I would be happy.
If	Ram became rich	she would marry him.
If	I won the lottery	I would buy a car.

The Third Conditional

- **Often referred to as the "past" conditional because it concerns only past situations with hypothetical results. Used to express a hypothetical result to a past given situation.**
- **Conditional 3 is formed by the use of the past perfect in the if clause followed by a comma would have past participle in the result clause. You can also put the result clause first without using a comma between the clauses.**

condition		result
	Past Perfect	WOULD HAVE + Past Participle
If	I had won the lottery	I would have bought a car.

Sometimes we use should have, could have, might have instead of would have

Example: If you had bought a lottery ticket, you might have won

IF	condition	result
	past perfect	WOULD HAVE + past participle
If	I had seen Mary	I would have told her.
If	Tara had been free yesterday	I would have invited her.
If	they had not passed their exam	their teacher would have been sad.