

The Second Conditional

"If I met a genie, I would ask for infinite wealth..."

We use the *second conditional* when talking about **future events that are not likely to happen.**

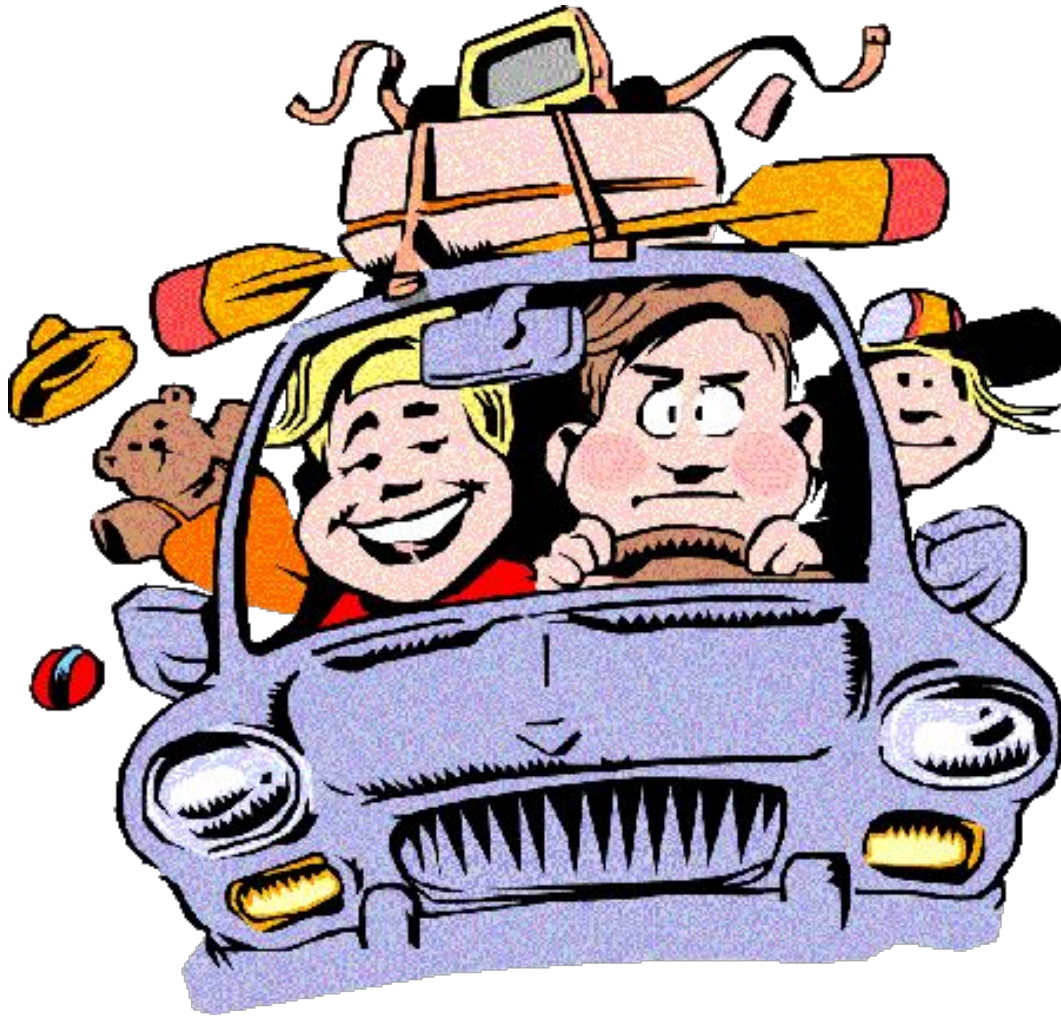


Structure:

- If + Simple Past, + Would + Base Form
- Would + Base Form + If + Simple Past

result	IF	condition
WOULD + base verb		past simple
I would be happy	if	I married Mary.
She would marry Ram	if	he became rich.
Would you be surprised	if	it snowed next July?
What would you do	if	it snowed next July?

If I won a million dollars, I would travel around the world.
(There is a small possibility that I would actually win.)



Dan likes fast cars but he doesn't have one. He doesn't have enough money.



I would be surprised if I saw pigs in the sky.
(It is very unlikely for me to see pigs in the sky.)



We also use the *second conditional* when talking about things which are **contrary to the present facts.**



"If I had any money, I would give you some."

- If she worked less, **she wouldn't be so tired**.
(In reality she doesn't work less, so she is tired.)
- **You would see John** if you were here now.
(In reality you are not here now, so you don't see John.)
- If things were different, **we would be happy**.
(In reality things are not different, and we are not happy.)
- **We would be good friends** if she were nicer.
(In reality she is not nice, and we are not good friends.)

Note:

You can use these modal verbs instead of **would**:
should, could, might.

Examples:

If she didn't have her job, she could come with us to the North Pole.

If they wanted to move, they could sell the house to us.

Note:

the short form of *would* is 'd.

For example: If Kathleen were at home, she'd pick up the phone.

The verb **BE**

The verb BE has a special rule in this case.

Usually we say: I was, he was, she was, it was, we were, you were, they were.

However, in these cases, we use:

I were, he were, she were, it were, we were, you were, they were.

In other words: "were" is the only form.



If I were you I would
apologize.
(In reality I am not
you.)



I wouldn't go out
if I were you.

Assignment

Assignment

Assignment



What would you do...?

- 1. if there was a fly in the soup?



2. if you saw a ghost?



3. if you were a millionaire?



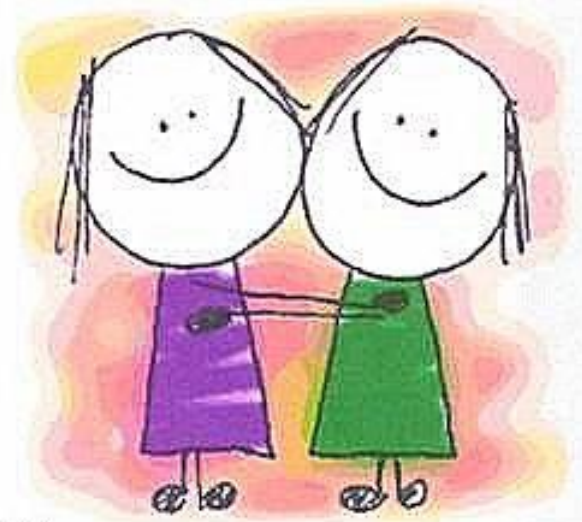
4. if Pamela Anderson (Mickey Rourke) asked you to marry her (him)



5. if Nikita Dzhigurda asked you to be a baby-sitter to watch his new-born son?



Joke
“CONDITIONAL
FRIENDSHIP”



FRIENDS

Me And You Are Friends...

You Fight, I Fight...

You Hurt, I Hurt...

You Cry, I Cry...

You Jump Off A Bridge...

I'm Gonna Miss You!

Mix and Match

- If I went to New York
- If I met Tom Cruise
- If I went to China
- If I had enough time
- If I lost my job
- If I owned a horse
- I'd like to see a terracotta statue
- I'd be very upset
- I'd asked him for his autograph
- I'd like to study a new language
- I'd climb to the top of the Empire State Building
- I'd go riding every day

Make the second conditional

- If I (be) you, I (get) a new job.
- If he (be) younger, he (travel) more. ..
- If we (not/be) friends, I (be) angry with you.
- If I (have) enough money, I (buy) a big house.
- If she (not/be) always so late, she (be) promoted.
- She (pass) the exam if she (study) more.
- If I (speak) perfect English, I (have) a good job
- You (lose) weight if you (eat) less
- We (buy) a house if we (decide) to stay here.
- We (come) to dinner if we (have) time.

Multiple-choice exercise

- 1. If she spoke English fluently , she
.....get a better job.
- would
- doesn't
- wouldn't
- 2. His parents would be happier if he
.....them more often.
- Visited
- Visits
- would visit

Complete the Conditional Sentences. Decide whether to use Type I or II.

- If they go to Washington, they (see) the White House.
- If she (have) a hamster, she would call him Fred.
- If he gave her a sweet, she (stop) crying.
- If he (arrive) later, he will take a taxi.
- We would understand him if he (speak) slowly.
- Andy (cook) dinner if we buy the food.
- I will prepare breakfast if I (wake up) early.
- If they shared a room, they (fight) all day long.
- If you hate walking in the mountains, you (enjoy/not) the tour.
- Janet would go jogging if she (have/not) to do her homework.