

Conditional Sentences

Structure:

A conditional sentence is composed of 2 parts:

If-clause + Main Clause

Example:

If it rains tomorrow, we will not come.

If-clause Main Clause

Types of conditionals	Tenses	If – clause (condition)	Main clause (result)
Zero conditional Uses: facts which are generally true or scientific facts.	Present Simple V1/ Vs - do/does + Present Simple V1/ Vs - do/does	If I drink coffee at night,	I don't sleep well
First conditional Uses: A possible situation in the future.	Present Simple V1/Vs - do/does + Future Simple V1 - will	If I drink coffee tonight,	I won't sleep well
Second conditional Uses: Hypothetical or unlikely situations.	Past Simple V2 - did + Future Simple-in the Past V1 - would	If I drank coffee tonight,	I wouldn't sleep well
Third conditional Uses: The person is imagining a different past.	Past Perfect V3 - had + Future Perfect-in the Past V3 - would have	If I had drunk coffee last night,	I wouldn't have slept well



Conditional Sentences

Types:

The order of the two clauses is flexible, it's not important.
But if the if-clause comes first, it must be followed by a comma.

If it rains, I'll stay at home

- There are 4 types of conditional sentences. They are classified according to the degree of probability that they express.
- Each type of conditional sentences uses different tenses to show the difference in the degree of probability.



Zero Conditionals

Use:

Talk about universal truth.

If you heat ice, it turns to water

To give commands

If you are tired, go to bed!

In this case the verb in the main clause is an Imperative



Zero Conditionals

Tense: Present tense in both clauses

Example:





If you heat water to 100°C, it boils.

If you pour oil into water, it floats.



First Conditionals

Use:

To speak about possible or probable future events.

If the weather is as sunny tomorrow as it was today, we will go surfing.

To make promises or warnings

If you forget my birthday, I'll never speak to you again.

Unless is used in negative conditionals

Unless we recycle more, we won't have a better world.



First Conditionals

Tense:

If-clause ~ Present Tense
Main Clause ~ Future Tense

Present Tense



If I feel sick tomorrow, I will not go to school.

If it rains, the match will be cancelled.



Second Conditionals

Use:

To speak about present and future situations which are unlikely to happen.

If I had any money I would lend it to you.

If I were you I wouldn't do this.

MIND

Were is often used instead of was in the 1st and 3rd person singular



Second Conditionals

Tense: If-clause ~ Past Tense

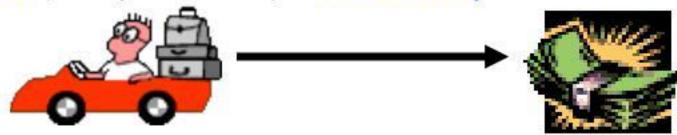
Main Clause ~ would + an infinitive

Example:





If he were a bird, he would fly across the harbour. If I had \$200,000 now, I would buy a car.





Third Conditionals

Use:

To speak about impossible past events

If they'd gone by bus, they would have arrived much later.

(They didn't go by bus)

He would have travelled around the world if he had had more money.

(Impossible to change, because he didn't have the money)



Third Conditionals

Tense: If-clause ~ Past Perfect Tense
Main Clause ~ Would Have + Past

Participle

Past Perfect Tense

Would have+ Past Participle

If I had had enough money, I would have bought the camera yesterday.

If I had come home earlier, I would not have missed the programme.