**Conditional**

- If people eat too much they get fat.
- If I have time I will visit you.
- If I had more time I would travel the world.
- If I had had time I would have gone to the football match.

**Definition and types of conditionals**

To talk about things that are possible, you often use if in a sentence. A sentence with if is called a **conditional sentence**.

- **If it rains tomorrow, we shall not go to the beach.**
- **If there’s no rice in the cupboard, we’ll buy some more.**
- **If we don’t work hard, we’ll never learn.**
- **If we leave now, we’ll arrive on time.**

**Table: Types of conditionals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>IF-CLAUSE</th>
<th>MAIN CLAUSE</th>
<th>USE</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>- PRESENT SIMPLE</td>
<td>- PRESENT SIMPLE</td>
<td>Pure fact</td>
<td>Water turns into ice if it gets cold.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 PROBABLE CONDITION</td>
<td>if + PRESENT SIMPLE</td>
<td>- FUTURE SIMPLE - IMPERATIVE - MODAL VERB + INFINITIVE</td>
<td>real present real or very probable situation in the present or future.</td>
<td>If he comes late, we’ll miss the train. If you don’t have enough money, don’t buy it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 IMPOSSIBLE CONDITION</td>
<td>if + PAST SIMPLE</td>
<td>- WOULD + BARE INFINITIVE - COULD + BARE INFINITIVE - MIGHT + BARE INFINITIVE - SHOULD + BARE INFINITIVE</td>
<td>unreal present improbable situation in the present or future also used to give advice</td>
<td>If I had money, I would buy a new car (but I don't have enough money) If I were you, I would see a doctor. Would you run away if you saw a ghost?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 IMPOSSIBLE CONDITION</td>
<td>if + PAST PERFECT</td>
<td>- WOULD HAVE + P. PARTICIPLE - COULD HAVE + P. PARTICIPLE - MIGHT HAVE + P. PARTICIPLE - SHOULD HAVE +P PARTICIPLE</td>
<td>unreal past improbable situation in the past also used to express regret and criticism</td>
<td>If you hadn’t been rude, your boss wouldn't have fired you (but you were rude and he fired you) She would have passed the exam if she had studied.</td>
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**Let's practice (01): Rewrite these sentences without changing the meaning of the original one**

1. I think it will rain tomorrow. We’ll have to stay indoors.
   - If it rains tomorrow, we’ll have to stay indoors.
2. David must practise more to be a really good pianist.
   - If David doesn’t practise more, he won’t be a really good pianist.
3. If anyone complains, refer them to the manager. Should.
   - If anyone complains, refer them to the manager.
4. You have to have a visa to enter China.
   - You must have a visa to enter China.
5. I need a grant in order to study at university.
   - I won’t be able to study at university if I don’t have a grant.
6. I cannot afford to buy a PSP.
   - If I don’t have enough money, I can’t afford to buy a PSP.
7. I couldn’t finish the crossword because it was too difficult.
   - If the crossword was too difficult, I couldn’t finish it.
8. Tommy would love to have a baby sister.
   - Tommy wishes to have a baby sister.
9. Take my advice - don’t move into that neighbourhood.
   - I wish you wouldn’t move into that neighbourhood.
10. It rained a lot when we were in England.
    - I wish it hadn’t rained a lot when we were in England.
11. Suzi has to work very hard. Suzi cannot take more exercise.
    - Suzi should work very hard.
12. You missed a good game on Sunday.
    - I wish you had gone to the football match.
13. When I was younger, I didn’t learn how to play a musical instrument.
    - If I had been younger, I would have learned how to play a musical instrument.
    - If I hadn’t been so expensive, I could have bought a new car.
14. I didn’t bring a map. We got lost.
   Had ____________________________

15. Tom was sent to bed last night because he didn’t
   behave himself.
   If ______________________________

16. I don’t like Tony because he is always saying nasty
   things.
   I wish __________________________

17. Drivers do not pay attention to the rules of the road.
   There are a lot of accidents.

18. I advise you not to tell anyone.
   Were ____________________________

19. He didn’t recover soon. He didn’t follow the doctor’s
   order. (PROVIDED)
   ________________

20. He may go to prison. He refuses to pay the fine.
   Unless __________________________

21. The Smiths regret cancelling their trip to Turkey.
   The Smiths wish __________________

Mixed Conditionals

Unreal conditionals (type II + III) sometimes can be mixed, that is, the time of the if-clause is different from the one of the main clause.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past --&gt; Present</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If I had taken an aspirin, I wouldn’t have a headache now.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Past --&gt; Future</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If I had known that you are going to come by tomorrow, I would be in then.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present --&gt; Past</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If she had enough money, she could have done this trip to Hawaii.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Present --&gt; Future</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If I were you, I would be spending my vacation in Seattle.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Future --&gt; Past</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If I weren’t flying to Detroit, I would have planned a trip to Vancouver.</td>
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</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Future --&gt; Present</th>
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<tr>
<td>If I were taking this exam next week, I would be high-strung.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Let’s practice (‘02): Use mixed tenses in these sentences

1. If I ____________________________ (be) you, I ____________________________ (check) my facts before I wrote that letter.
2. If you ____________________________ (be) so hungry, you ____________________________ (not miss) breakfast.
3. If he ____________________________ (not/catch) the 5.30 train, he ____________________________ (not arrive) for another two hours.
4. He ____________________________ (feel) very tired today if he ____________________________ (play) rugby yesterday.
5. If the snake bite ____________________________ (be) poisonous, you ____________________________ (feel) very ill now.
6. If I ____________________________ (be) in your position, I ____________________________ (answer) his letter by now.

Let’s practice (‘03): Rewrite the following mixed conditional sentences

1. She isn’t at the meeting because she wasn’t told about it.
2. I didn’t apply for the job. I don’t want to work there.
3. He didn’t take his job seriously. He’s unemployed now.
4. He didn’t train every day. He won’t win the race.
5. I didn’t warn me. Now I’m in a difficult situation.
6. I don’t know him very well, so I didn’t give him any advice.

NOTES

1. We put a comma after the IF-CLAUSE when it comes first.
   If we go by plane, it will be more expensive. It will be more expensive if we go by plane.

2. After IF, we can use WERE instead of WAS in all persons
   If I were you, I wouldn’t spend so much time watching TV.

3. We do not usually use WILL, WOULD or SHOULD in an IF-CLAUSE
   If we take a taxi, we won’t be late.
   However, we use SHOULD after IF when we are less sure about a possibility
   If I should see him, I’ll give it to him. (Perhaps I’ll see him but I’m less sure)

4. OTHER LINKING WORDS
   UNLESS, IF NOT: We’ll go for a picnic unless it rains.
   PROVIDED (THAT): Children are allowed to go for a ride on the roller coaster provided that they go with an adult.
   AS LONG AS: As long as he’s on time, we won’t be late for the meeting.
Let’s practice (04): Rewrite these sentences using UNLESS.
We won’t buy any fish today unless it isn’t cheaper than yesterday.

1. If you don’t go to the party, they’ll be disappointed.
   _____________________________________________________________
2. I can’t help her if she doesn’t want to talk to me.
   _____________________________________________________________

Let’s practice (05): Complete the following sentences.

1. If we don’t hurry, we __will be________ (be) late.
2. If I see her, I _____________ (give) her your message.
3. If you’re hungry, I _____________ (make) you a sandwich.
4. If he _____________ (not/come) to the party, I will be very upset.
5. If she _____________ (go) to Paris, she’ll send me a postcard.
6. If we _____________ (not/be) busy, we’ll come with you.

Let’s practice (06): Complete with the Second Conditional.

1) If he _____________ (exercise), he would be healthier.
2) If I _____________ (be) you, I would call the police.
3) I _____________ (buy) a new jacket if I had some money.
4) I _____________ (help) him if I were you.
5) I would travel round the world if I _____________ (win) the lottery.
6) If she had time, she _____________ (go) to the gym.
7) If I _____________ (meet) an alien, I wouldn’t be scared.
8) If I _____________ (go) to New York, I would visit the Empire State building.