

Mixed Conditionals

If he **were** handsome,
I **would have been** his.

If he **were** smarter,
I **would have fallen** in love
with him.

If he **were** taller,
I **would have chosen** him.

If only I **hadn't been** so picky,
I **wouldn't be** alone now.

■ **If + Past Simple, would have Verb-3**
we use this to talk about the results in the past of a condition that is still true
(If he weren't so ugly, I would have picked him – he's still ugly)

■ **If + Past Perfect, would + infinitive**
we use to talk about the results in the present of a condition in the past
(If I hadn't been so picky, I would be married now – but I was picky, so I am not married now)

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Exercise A: Read each sentence. Decide if each explanation, A and B, is true (T) or false (F). Write T or F in the blank.

1. Jack **could have been** a famous swimmer if he **was** more prepared to train hard.
 A) Jack isn't a famous swimmer. _____ B) Jack doesn't like training hard. _____

2. If Ned's parents **had moved** to France, he **might speak** French now.
 A) Ned's parents moved to France. _____ B) Ned doesn't speak French. _____

3. If John and Adam **had talked** to each other more, they **could still be** friends today.
 A) They didn't talk to each other enough. _____ B) They are still friends. _____

4. If Mary **didn't believe** her son's story, she **might have called** the police.
 A) Mary doesn't believe her son's story. _____ B) Mary called the police. _____

5. Sarah **would have found** a husband years ago if she **wanted** to get married.
 A) Sarah wants to get married. _____ B) Sarah has found a husband. _____

Exercise B: Read the given situations in green. Then complete the mixed conditionals.
(If 2+3 or If 3+2)

6. If I **spoke** better Italian, I _____ the job last year.

(I don't speak Italian well enough, so I didn't get the job last year.)

7. If he _____ so good, he **would have won** the match last week.

(He is not so good; that's why he didn't win the match last week.)

8. If you **were** stronger, you _____ help to lift your baggage.

(You are not strong; that's why you needed help to lift your baggage.)

9. If I **hadn't drunk** too much last night, I _____ a hangover right now.

(I drank too much last night; that's why I have a hangover right now.)

10. If you _____ my advice, you **wouldn't be** in trouble now.

(You didn't follow my advice, and now you are in trouble.)

