

CONDITIONALS

	If-clause (hypothesis)	Main clause (result clause)	Use
Type 1 real present	If + any present form (Present S., Present Cont. or Present Perfect)	Future/Imperative can/may/might/must/should + bare inf/Present Simple	true or likely to happen in the present or future
	<i>If the weather is nice, we will go on an excursion.</i> <i>If you have done your homework, you can watch TV.</i> <i>If you have a headache, take an aspirin.</i>		
Type 2 unreal present	If + Past Simple or Past Continuous	would/could/might + bare Infinitive	untrue in the present; also used to give advice
	<i>If I were you, I wouldn't speak to him again. (advice)</i> <i>If he didn't eat so many sweets, he wouldn't have a problem with his teeth. (but he eats a lot of sweets - untrue in the present)</i>		
Type 3 unreal past	If + Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous	would/could/might + have + past participle	imaginary situation contrary to facts in the past; also used to express regrets or criticism
	<i>If she had known how to use the mixer, she wouldn't have broken it.</i>		

- When the if-clause precedes the result clause, we separate the two clauses with a comma. *If he had been more careful, he wouldn't have caused the accident. but: He wouldn't have caused the accident if he had been more careful. (no comma)*
- Conditionals are usually introduced by **if**. Other expressions are: **unless** (=if not), **providing**, **provided (that)**, **as long as**, **in case**, **on condition (that)**, **but for + -ing form/noun**, **otherwise**, or **else**, **what if**, **supposing**, **even if**, **only if**. *Unless you work more efficiently, you'll be fired.*
*I will do it **only if** you promise not to tell anyone.*
- After "if" we normally use **were** instead of **was** for all persons in conditionals type 2 in formal English. *If I **were/was** you, I would tell her everything.*
- We do not normally use **will**, **would** or **should** in if-clauses. *If you **want** this, you can have it. (not: ~~if you will want~~)* However, **will**, **would** or **should** can be used in if-clauses to make a **request** or express **annoyance**, **doubt/uncertainty** or **insistence**. *If he **should** come, show him in. (doubt/uncertainty - I doubt that he will come ...)* *If you **will/would** be more patient, I'll be with you in a minute. (request - Will you please be more patient?)*

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/vi/grammar/british-grammar/conditionals-other-expressions-unless-should-as-long-as>

Exercise 1. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

- 1 If you ...*don't put up*... (not/put up) this shelf, you won't have anywhere to put your books. (1st)
- 2 If he (change) jobs, he would be a lot happier.
- 3 If I were you, I (tell) her how you feel.
- 4 If you continue to shout so loudly, you (wake up) the baby.
- 5 Even if he (ask) them, they wouldn't have agreed to come.
- 6 Unless you (feel) any better, you can take the rest of the day off.
- 7 If she (not/threaten) him, he wouldn't have left.
- 8 I (not/trust) him if I were you.
- 9 If you're patient for a few minutes, I (be able) to finish this.
- 10 He (not/go) with her if he had known she would behave so irresponsibly.

Exercise 2. Rephrase the following, using the bracketed word or phrase.

1. Should you go to Rome, you must see the Colosseum.
(PROVIDING).....
2. You can swim but there must be an adult with you.
(ON CONDITION THAT)
(UNLESS)
3. Drive carefully so that you won't have an accident.
(AS LONG AS)
(OTHERWISE)
4. He will get a bonus if productivity increases.
(PROVIDED)
5. I'll lend you the money, but you must pay me back soon.
(ONLY IF)
(UNLESS)
6. The fax machine is broken so I'll have to send it by post.
(IF)
7. He cancelled his trip because he had run out of money.
(IF ONLY)

Omission of "if"

If can be omitted in if-clauses. In this case **should, were** and **had** (Past Perfect) come before the subject. *If he should win the race, he'll be very happy. ⇒ Should he win the race, he'll be very happy.*
If I were you, I wouldn't tell him. ⇒ Were I you, I wouldn't tell him.
If I had known the truth, I'd have called the police. ⇒ Had I known the truth, I'd have called the police.

Exercise 3. Rewrite the following sentences, omitting "IF".

- 1 If I were you, I would think twice before accepting his offer.
...*Were I you, I would think twice before accepting his offer.*
- 2 If you had brought more money with you, we could have gone on holiday.
.....
- 3 If I were you, I'd leave an hour earlier to be sure of getting there on time.
.....
- 4 If you get through to the theatre, could you reserve four tickets for tonight's performance?
.....
- 5 If you had paid the telephone bill on time, your phone wouldn't have been cut off.
.....

Mixed Conditionals

Type 2	<i>If I were you, (You are not me If he were a better driver, (He is not a good driver</i>	<i>I would have accepted the job. so you didn't accept the job.) he wouldn't have crashed the car. so he crashed the car.)</i>	Type 3
Type 3	<i>If she had finished earlier, (She didn't finish earlier</i>	<i>she would be going to the party tonight. so she isn't going to the party.)</i>	Type 2

Exercise 4. Rewrite the following as mixed conditionals as in the example.

1. He is not an honest person so he didn't tell the truth.

...*If he were an honest person, he would have told the truth.*

2. They were awake all night, so they are tired now.

3. You didn't tell me earlier, so we are not going to the cinema tonight.

4. She is so disorganized that she missed the deadline.

5. He doesn't take his job seriously so he wasn't promoted.

Exercise 5. Choose the best answer.

1. If it had rained one hour ago, the streets..... wet now.

A. Would have be B. will be C. be D. would be

2. If Ito the beach yesterday, I would be tired today.

A. Have gone B. Goes C. had gone D. A and B

3. If they had gone to school yesterday, they.....to the museum now.

A. Would go B. will go C. could go D. A and C

4. If he had done exercise last night, he.....soccer right now.

A. Will play B. can play C. plays D. could play.

5. If Nina had not gone out last week, she.....die now.

A. Will B. would C. could D. B and C

6. If Ithe same problem you had as a child, I might not have succeeded in life as well as you have.

A. have B. would have C. had had D. should have

7. Iyou sooner had someone told me you were in the hospital.

A. would have visited B. visited C. had visited D. visit

8.more help, I would call my neighbor.

A. needed B. should I need C. I have needed D. I should need

9.then what I know yesterday, I would have saved myself a lot of time and trouble over the years.

A. Had I known B. Did I know C. If I know D. If I would know

10., I would have brought my friends over to your house yesterday to watch T.V, but I didn't want to bother you.

A. Hadn't you studied B. If you studied
C. Had you not studied D. Were you not to study