

LESSON 17: Conditionals: Zero + First Conditional

1. Zero conditional

Ex:

If water **reaches** 100 degrees, it always **boils**.

If you **touch** a fire, you **get** burned.

People **die** if they **don't eat**.

If babies **are** hungry, they **cry**.

- *It's a fact. I'm talking in general, not about one particular situation.*
- *This conditional is used when the result will always happen.*

→ **If + Present Simple , Present Simple.**

2. First Conditional

Examples



- If it **rains**, I **will stay** at home.
- If I **wake** up late, I **will miss** the bus.
- And, if it's **sunny**, we'll **go** to the park.
- If Juan **leaves**, Paula **will be** sad.
- If I **find** your email, I **will send** you the picture.
- If you **study** hard, you **will pass** your exams.



2. First conditional

Usage

To talk about possibilities in the present
or in the future

→ If + Present Simple , Future Simple.

Note

Ex: **Unless = if not**

You'll be sick unless you **stop** eating.

=

You will be sick if you don't stop eating.

PRACTICE

Exercise 1:

A Possibilities in my future

Complete this email from one friend to another by putting in the correct positive or negative forms of the verbs in brackets. Use the present simple or *will/won't*. Use short forms.

Thanks for your message, it was great to hear your news. I'm very busy at the moment because my exams start next week. If I get⁰ (get) the right grades, I'll start⁰ (start) my university course in September. But if I¹ (do) well enough in them, I² (be able to) go to that university. So I'm working very hard.

Thanks for inviting me to come and stay with you during the summer. I³ (do) it if the flights⁴ (be) too expensive. I'm planning to get a job for a few weeks and I⁵ (save) enough money to come if I⁶ (find) one. It⁷ (be) a pity if we⁸ (see) each other, so I'll do my best.

Other news? Well, the weather's terrible here at the moment. If it⁹ (improve), I think I¹⁰ (go) mad! I hope you're OK. If you¹¹ (write) to me again soon, I¹² (reply) as quickly as I can.

Exercise 2:

What might happen tonight

Judy and Brian are getting ready to go out for the evening. Complete their conversation, using the words below it and the present simple or *will/won't*.

JUDY If you don't hurry⁰,¹ to the restaurant on time.

BRIAN Well,² if³ a bit late. Don't worry about it.

JUDY I am worried. What⁴ if⁵ there?

BRIAN I'm sure⁶ if⁷ wait for us for a few minutes.

JUDY But it's a very important evening. It's Frank's birthday and⁸ angry with us if⁹ on time.

BRIAN Look, I'm nearly ready. If¹⁰ calm,¹¹ fine.

JUDY Do you think that Frank is going to make a speech?

BRIAN If¹² a speech,¹³ embarrassed, I'm sure.

JUDY Why? If¹⁴ to make a speech on his special day,
.....¹⁵. If¹⁶ his funny stories,
.....¹⁷.

BRIAN You might laugh. But if¹⁸ about things that happened when he and I were small children,¹⁹ leave the room!

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 0 you/not hurry | 7 they/have to | 14 he/want |
| 1 we/not get | 8 people/be | 15 nobody/mind |
| 2 it/not matter | 9 we/not turn up | 16 he/tell |
| 3 we/be | 10 you/keep | 17 we/laugh |
| 4 the others/do | 11 everything/be | 18 he/talk |
| 5 we/not be | 12 he/make | 19 I/have to |
| 6 they/not panic | 13 everyone/be | |

Exercise 3:

If you visit this city ...

Match the second halves of the tips from a travel guide (a–i) giving advice to tourists visiting a city with the beginning of each sentence (1–8). Write the letters of the correct sentence endings in the spaces.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 0 If you book accommodation early,
..... <i>i</i> | a you might like to climb to the top of
the cathedral tower. |
| 1 If you get lost in the city, | b you should be able to get tickets
easily. |
| 2 If you visit the Central Museum,
..... | c some of the tourist attractions might
not be open. |
| 3 If you want to go to the opera,
..... | d don't panic. |
| 4 If you go to the market, | e you shouldn't have to queue at
museums and art galleries. |
| 5 If you want to avoid the crowds,
..... | f you might find some good souvenirs. |
| 6 If you buy a tourist pass, | g go straight to the third floor. |
| 7 If you feel energetic one day,
..... | h don't come at the height of the
tourist season. |
| 8 If you come here in the winter,
..... | i you shouldn't have difficulty getting
a good hotel. |