

Unreal conditional sentences with *if* clauses

Imaginary situation (simple past)

If I **found** \$40,000,

Possible consequence (*would, could, or might* + verb)

I **would keep** it.

I **wouldn't return** it.

I **could buy** a new car.

I **might go** to the police.

What **would** you **do if** you **found** \$40,000?

- The clauses in unreal conditional sentences can come in either order. Don't use a comma when the *if* clause comes second: **If** I won the lottery, I'd share the money with my family. / I'd share the money with my family **if** I won the lottery.

Complete the conversation with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

- 1. A:** If a friend _____ (ask) to borrow some money, what _____ you _____ (say)?

B: Well, if I _____ (have) any extra money that month, I _____ probably _____ (give) it to her.
- 2. A:** What _____ you _____ (do) if someone _____ (give) you a million dollars?

B: Hmm, I'm not sure. I _____ (buy) a lot of nice clothes and jewelry, or I _____ (spend) some and _____ (give) some away, or I _____ (put) it all in the bank.
- 3. A:** If you _____ (think) a friend was doing something dangerous, _____ you _____ (say) something to him, or _____ you _____ (keep) quiet?

B: I _____ definitely _____ (talk) to my friend about it.
- 4. A:** What _____ you _____ (do) if you _____ (have) a problem with your boss?

B: That's a hard one. If that _____ (happen), I _____ (talk) to the human resources department about it, or I _____ just _____ (sit down) with my boss and _____ (talk) about the situation.

Complete these conversations. Then compare with a partner.

1. **A:** What _____ you _____ (do) if you lost your sister's favorite sweater?
B: Of course I _____ (buy) her a new one.
2. **A:** If you _____ (have) three months to travel,
where _____ you _____ (go)?
B: Oh, that's easy! I _____ (fly) to Europe. I've always wanted to go there.
3. **A:** If your doctor _____ (tell) you to get more exercise, which activity
_____ you _____ (choose)?
B: I'm not sure, but I think I _____ (go) jogging two or three times a week.
4. **A:** _____ you _____ (break) into your house if you _____ (lock)
yourself out?
B: No way! If I _____ (not have) another key, I _____ (ask) a neighbor for help.
5. **A:** If your friend _____ (want) to marry someone you didn't like,
_____ you _____ (say) something?
B: No, I _____ (not say) anything. I _____ (mind) my own business.
6. **A:** What _____ you _____ (do) if you _____ (see) your favorite
movie star on the street?
B: I _____ (not be) shy! I _____ (ask) to take a photo with them.