

Conditionals – Wishes

7



Listen and repeat. Then act out.



	If-clause	Main clause	Use
Type 0 general truth	If / When + present simple	present simple	something which is always true, laws of nature
	If you heat metal, it melts .		
Type 1 real present	If + any present form (present simple, present continuous, present perfect or present perfect continuous)	future / imperative / can / may / might / must / could / should + bare infinitive	real – likely to happen in the present or future
	If he leaves early, he'll be on time for the meeting. If you're tired, go to bed. If you have finished your work, we can go for a walk.		
Type 2 unreal present	If + past simple or past continuous	would / could / might + bare infinitive	imaginary situation contrary to facts in the present; also used to give advice
	If I saw a ghost, I would run away. (but I haven't seen a ghost – untrue in the present) If I were you, I wouldn't go out that late. (advice)		
Type 3 unreal past	If + past perfect or past perfect continuous	would / could / might + have + past participle	imaginary situation in the past; also used to express regrets and criticism
	If I had closed the window, we wouldn't have been robbed. (but I didn't close the window – untrue in the past) If he hadn't been behaving so badly, well, the teacher wouldn't have punished him. (criticism)		

- When the **if-clause** is before the main clause, we separate the two clauses with a comma.
If you **come** early, we **can go** for a walk. **BUT** We **can go** for a walk **if** you **come** early.
- We do not normally use **will**, **would** or **should** in an **if-clause**.
If you **hurry**, you **will catch** the train. (NOT: ~~If you will hurry~~, you will ...)
- However, we can use **will** or **would** after **if** to make a polite request or express insistence or uncertainty. We can use **should** after **if** to talk about something which is possible but not very likely to happen.
If you **will fill in** the form, I'll process your application. (Will you please fill in ... – polite request)
If you **will not stop** shouting, you will have to leave. (If you insist on shouting ... – insistence)
I don't know if I **will pass** my driving test. (uncertainty)
If I **should see** her, I'll ask her. (I don't think it's very likely I will see her)

- In the *if*-clause of Type 2 conditionals, we can use **were** instead of **was** in all persons. *If I was/were you, I would try harder.*
- We can use **unless** instead of **if ... not** in the *if*-clause of Type 1 conditionals. The verb is always in the affirmative after **unless**. *Unless she studies, she won't pass her test. (=if she doesn't study, he won't pass her test.)*
- **As long as, providing / provided that** can be used instead of **if**.
As long as he's on time, we won't be late for the meeting. (If he's on time ...)
We'll come by car providing / provided that Dad lends us his. (... if Dad lends us ...)

- 1 Match the sentences in column A with those in column B to make Type 0 conditional sentences as in the example:

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------|
| 1 | e | Leave milk out of the fridge. |
| 2 | | Put wood in water. |
| 3 | | Throw a ball up into the air. |
| 4 | | Mix red and blue. |
| 5 | | Add two and three. |

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| a | You get five. |
| b | It falls to the ground. |
| c | You get purple. |
| d | It floats. |
| e | It goes off. |

1-e If you leave milk out of the fridge, it goes off.

- 2 Make Type 1 conditional sentences as in the example:



- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | train it / it learn to obey commands | <i>If you train it, it will learn to obey commands.</i> |
| 2 | put something in its mouth / it eat it | |
| 3 | programme it / it walk | |
| 4 | touch its head / it wag its tail | |
| 5 | ask / it questions / it nod or shake its head | |
| 6 | it hear someone coming / it roar | |

- 3 a) Complete the sentences to make Type 2 conditional sentences.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 | If I met my favourite film star, <i>I'd be so excited.</i> | 4 | If I saw someone cheating in a test, |
| 2 | If I lost my pet, | 5 | If I was able to travel back in time, |
| 3 | If I wanted to lose weight, | 6 | If I found €20 outside a shop, |

b) In pairs, compare your answers to Ex. 3a.

What would you do if you met your favourite film star?

If I met my favourite film star, I'd ask for an autograph. What about you?

- 4 Look at the pictures and the ideas and make **Type 3 conditional** sentences as in the example:



- 1 not buy / guitar → not learn / play one.
If Jeff hadn't bought a guitar, he wouldn't have learnt how to play one.
- 2 not learn / play guitar → not join / band
- 3 not join / band → not be asked / play at party
- 4 not be asked / play at party → not meet / band manager
- 5 not meet / band manager → not sign contract / record company

- 5 Look at the pictures then use the ideas to write **conditional** sentences. What type is each sentence?



- 1 I passed my driving test. My father let me borrow his car.

If I hadn't passed my driving test, my father wouldn't have let me borrow his car. (Type 3)

- 2 Plants have to get enough sunlight. They die.



- 4 Mum is still working. We can't go to the park.



- 5 David missed the bus this morning. He was late for work.



- 6 Pour oil into water. It floats.



- 3 I must finish my essay first. Then I'll come to the cinema with you.