



Third Conditional





Introduction

The Third Conditional is used when we talk about unrealistic situations in the past.

It shows what could have happened if the past had been different, but nothing can be changed.



Meaning

We use the Third Conditional to talk about:

- * regret about the past;
- * imagined results of the past;
- * events that did not happen.

Example:

If I had studied harder, I would have passed the exam.

If I had studied harder, I would have passed the exam.





Affirmative:

If + past perfect, would have + V3

Example:

If she had left earlier, she would have caught the bus.

Negative:

If + past perfect, would not have + V3

Example:

If they had not forgotten the keys, they would not have been late.

Question form:

Would + subject + have + V3, if + past perfect?

Example:

Would you have helped me if I had asked?



How is it formed

If-clause:

had + V3

had gone, had seen, had done

Main clause:

would have + V3

would have gone, would have seen, would have done

Important clue words

Commonly encountered words:

* if

* had

* would have

* could have

* might have

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- If I ____ (study), I ____ (pass) the exam.
 - If she ____ (leave) earlier, she ____ (catch) the bus.
 - If we ____ (not / forget) the map, we ____ (not / get lost).
 - If he ____ (listen) to the teacher, he ____ (understand) the topic.
 - If they ____ (arrive) on time, they ____ (see) the beginning of the film.
 - If I ____ (know) about the party, I ____ (come).
 - If she ____ (not / be) sick, she ____ (go) to school.
 - If you ____ (tell) me the truth, I ____ (help) you.
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- had studied / would have passed
 - had left / would have caught
 - hadn't forgotten / wouldn't have got lost
 - had listened / would have understood
 - had arrived / would have seen
 - had known / would have come
 - hadn't been / would have gone
 - had told / would have helped
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Conclusions

- In conclusion, the Third Conditional helps us talk about past situations that never happened. It is useful for expressing regrets, imagining different results, and discussing missed opportunities. This grammar structure is very important in English because it allows us to speak about the past in a more detailed and thoughtful way.
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Thank You



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