



VICTORYA CHISTOVA

THE THIRD CONDITIONAL: CHAINS OF CAUSATION

IF + PAST PERFECT / WOULD + PRESENT PERFECT

IMAGINED
EVENT

IMAGINED
EVENT

- ★ Use the third conditional to talk about what didn't happen and the imagined result.
- ★ Contract auxiliary verbs and negatives.
e.g. If he'd studied more, he wouldn't have failed.
- ★ If you start with the would clause don't use a comma.
e.g. He wouldn't have failed If he'd studied more.
- ★ You can change would to a modal verb such as may, might or could.
e.g. If he'd studied more, he might not have failed.
- ★ Use "if only" to talk about something you wish had happened.
e.g. If only he'd studied more, he wouldn't have failed.



He won the lottery. He met a beautiful woman. They got married. She met someone else. They got divorced. She took half of his money

1. If he hadn't won the lottery _____
2. If they hadn't met _____
3.they wouldn't have got divorced.
4.she wouldn't have taken half of his money.

Now make third conditional sentences about the stories below:

He had his first tennis lessons in primary school. He liked the lessons and he joined a tennis club. He trained at the club twice a week. He won the local tennis tournament. A talent scout spotted him at the tournament and offered him a tennis scholarship in America. He went to America. He became the best tennis player in the world.