

**IF YOU'RE IN A SLOW QUEUE AT THE SUPERMARKET AND YOU CHANGE TO A DIFFERENT QUEUE, WHAT WILL USUALLY HAPPEN?**



## If something can go wrong...

If you're in a queue at the supermarket and you change to another queue which is moving more quickly, what will happen? The queue you were in before will suddenly start moving faster. What will happen if you take your umbrella because you think it's going to rain later? It won't rain, of course. It will only rain if you forget to take your umbrella. These are examples of Murphy's Law, which says, 'If there is something that can go wrong, it will go wrong'.

Murphy's Law took its name from Captain Edward Murphy, an American aerospace engineer from the 1940s. He was trying to improve safety for pilots flying military planes. Not surprisingly, he got a reputation for always thinking of the worst thing that could happen in every situation. Here are some more examples of Murphy's Law.

Who was  
Murphy?

What is his  
"Law"?

Q&A

SEE NEXT SLIDE

# Murphy's Law examples.

MATCH THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SENTENCES WITH ENDINGS A-H.

## Shopping

- 1 If you lose a glove and buy a new pair,...
- 2 If you order something online,...

## Transport

- 3 If you stop waiting for a bus and start walking,...
- 4 If you're in a taxi and you're late for something important,...

## Technology

- 5 If a technician comes to fix your computer,...
- 6 If you need to print a document urgently,...

## Air travel

- 7 If you get to the airport early,...
- 8 If you're late for your flight,...

1

2

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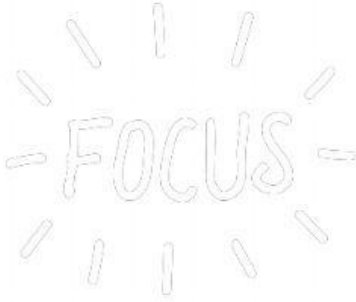
- A it will immediately start working.
- B three will come at the same time.
- C all the traffic lights will be red.
- D you'll find the lost one.
- E your flight will be delayed.
- F the printer won't have any paper.
- G there'll be a long queue at security.
- H you'll be out when they deliver it.

MURPHY'S LAW:

IF IT CAN GO WRONG,  
IT WILL GO WRONG

## Revise the rules:

- 1 If we **get** to the airport early, the flight **will be** delayed.  
If you **tell** her the truth, she **won't believe** you.  
What **will** you **do** if you **don't find** a job?
- 2 If you **don't go**, she **won't be** very pleased.  
She **won't be** very pleased if you **don't go**.
- 3 If you **miss** the last bus, **get** a taxi.  
If you **miss** the last bus, you **can get** a taxi.



- 1 We use *if* + present to talk about a possible situation and *will* / *won't* + infinitive to talk about the consequence.
- 2 The *if*-clause can come first or second. If the *if*-clause comes first, we usually put a comma before the next clause.
- 3 We can also use the imperative or *can* + infinitive instead of *will* + infinitive in the other clause.

## Complete the examples of Murphy's Law.

1. If you find a pair of shoes that you really like in a shop,
2. If you're in the street and you need a taxi,
3. If you wear a new white shirt,
4. If you leave your phone at home,
5. If there's a football match on TV and you leave the room for 30 seconds,



POSSIBLE SITUATION

FUTURE CONSEQUENCE

If you need to print a document urgently, the printer will stop working.

IF + subject + simple present, subject + will (not) + infinitive verb

## Practice:

<https://wordwall.net/es/resource/4355756/first-conditional>

DO NOT →  
forget

POSSIBLE SITUATION

FUTURE CONSEQUENCE

IF + subject + simple present, subject + will (not) + infinitive verb

DO NOT →  
forget

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Talk about you. Use conditional 1 sentences.

If I can't  
sleep  
tonight, ...

If it's  
sunny next  
weekend, ...

If there`s  
another  
lockdown, ...

If I see a  
friend next  
week, ...

If it rains  
tomorrow,  
...

