

## 2 CONDITIONAL

What would you do if you were omnipotent a day?



IF-CLAUSE	MAIN CLAUSE
If I ___ omnipotent for a day, I would want world peace.	If I had a chance to be a boss for a day, I ___ promote you.
What tense is used in the IF-CLAUSE?	What is used in the MAIN CLAUSE?
What time is the IF-CLAUSE about?	What time is the MAIN CLAUSE about?

## Why do we use the 2<sup>nd</sup> conditional?

1. Imaginary situation contrary to facts in the present;
2. To give advice;
3. To refuse requests and invitations.

### Task 1. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tenses.

- 1 If I had a typewriter I (type) it myself.
- 2 If I (know) his address I'd give it to you.
- 3 He (look) a lot better if he shaved more often.
- 4 If you (play) for lower stakes you wouldn't lose so much.
- 5 If he worked more slowly he (not make) so many mistakes.
- 6 I shouldn't drink that wine if I (be) you.
- 7 More tourists would come to this country if it (have) a better climate.
- 8 If I were sent to prison you (visit) me?
- 9 If someone (give) you a helicopter what would you do with it?
- 10 I (buy) shares in that company if I had some money.
- 11 If he (clean) his windscreen he'd be able to see where he was going.
- 12 If you drove your car into the river you (be able) to get out?
- 13 If you (not belong) to a union you couldn't get a job.
- 14 If I (win) a big prize in a lottery I'd give up my job.
- 15 What you (do) if you found a burglar in your house?
- 16 I could tell you what this means if I (know) Greek.
- 17 If everybody (give) £1 we would have enough.
- 18 He might get fat if he (stop) smoking.
- 19 If he knew that it was dangerous he (not come).
- 20 If you (see) someone drowning what would you do?
- 21 I (be) ruined if I bought her everything she asked for.
- 22 If you slept under a mosquito net you (not be) bitten so often.
- 23 I could get a job easily if I (have) a degree.
- 24 If she (do) her hair differently she might look quite nice.
- 25 If we had more rain our crops (grow) faster.
- 26 The whole machine would fall to pieces if you (remove) that screw.
- 27 I (keep) a horse if I could afford it.
- 28 I'd go and see him more often if he (live) on a bus route.
- 29 If they (ban) the sale of alcohol at football matches there might be less violence.
- 30 I (offer) to help if I thought I'd be any use.

#### 38.2 What do you say in these situations?

- 1 Of course you don't expect to win the lottery. Which do you say?
  - a If I win the lottery, I'll buy a **big** house.
  - b If I won the lottery, I'd buy a **big house**.  (b is correct)
- 2 You're not going to sell your **car** because it's old and not **worth** much. Which do you say?
  - a If I sell my car, I won't get much money for **it**.
  - b If I sold my car, I wouldn't get **much** money for it.
- 3 You often see **Sarah**. A friend of yours **wants** to contact her. Which do you say?
  - a If I see **Sarah**, I'll **tell her** to call you.
  - b If I saw **Sarah**, I'd tell **her** to call you.
- 4 You don't expect that **there will** be a fire in the building. Which do you say?
  - a What **will you do** if there is a fire in the **building**?
  - b What **would you do** if **there was** a fire in the **building**?
- 5 You've never **lost** your passport. You can only imagine it.
  - a I don't **know** what I'll **do** if I **lose** my passport.
  - b I don't **know** what I'd **do** if I **lost** my passport.
- 6 Somebody stops you and asks the way to a bank. Which do you say?
  - a If you go **right** at the end of this street, you'll **see** a bank on your **left**.
  - b If you **went** right at the end of this street, you'd **see** a bank on your **left**.
- 7 You're **in** a lift. There is an **emergency** button. Nobody is going to press it. Which do you say?
  - a What **will happen** if **somebody** presses that button?
  - b What **would happen** if **somebody** pressed **that** button?

## FREER PRACTICE

### Task 3. What does «superstitions» mean?

#### Superstitions

Are people in your country very superstitious? What are they superstitious about? What about you?

In pairs, write superstitions for some of these words, e.g. *If you break a mirror, you'll have seven years' bad luck. Make them up if you don't know any.*

mirror, black cat, ladder, birthday cake candles, itchy ear, itchy hand, salt, sneezing, spider, the number thirteen, the weather

**Work in pairs or small groups. Decide which of the following are real and to what extent you feel they really exist:**

spaceships from other worlds  
black magic  
angels  
witches  
extra-sensory perception  
communicating with the dead

ghosts  
the Bermuda Triangle  
the Loch Ness Monster  
faith healing  
fairies  
crop circles

### Task 2. Rewrite the following sentences using a Second Conditional.

**Example:** I want to sleep. I am not concentrated. - If I didn't want to sleep, I would be concentrated.

1. He works in the evening. He has no time to play with his children.
2. She has no money. She buys a lot of clothes.
3. I haven't got a car. I can't give you a lift.
4. I go to bed late. In the morning I am tired.
5. She's always late. She hasn't got a watch.
6. I eat a lot of cakes and sweets. I have put on weight.
7. I am quite weak. I am not a fire fighter.
8. I am in this class because I cannot speak perfect English.
9. I didn't go to work this morning. I have the flu.
10. I don't study very much. I don't pass my exams.

My car broke down yesterday. I went to work by bus.

### Task 3. Answer the following questions using $\frac{1}{2}$ conditionals.

1. If you won a lot of money, what would you buy first?
2. If the teacher gives you homework today, will you do it?
3. If you could have any job in the world, what would you like to be?
4. What will you do this weekend if the weather is good?
5. If you could choose one famous person to have dinner with, who would it be?
6. If you could change one part of your body, what would you change?

7. If there was a fire in your house, what would be the first thing you would take outside?
8. If you could go anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go?
9. If you have enough money for a holiday this year, where will you go?
10. 1. If you could only watch one film again in your life, which film would it be?
11. If you could know everything about one subject, what would this subject be?