Conditionals

Conditionals with *if*

1 1.07 **You are going to listen to four short extracts, where people talk about winning the lottery. How would their lives change if they won?**

2 **Explain what the contracted verb forms are in these examples of conditional sentences. How do the sentences differ in their use of tenses?**

a If I won the lottery, I'd buy a beautiful house in Spain.
b If I hadn't won, I wouldn't have been able to afford the flight.

Which types of conditional sentences are a and b? Choose from 0–3.

0 a situation that happens often
1 a situation that may happen in the future
2 a situation that is unlikely to happen
3 a situation that could have happened in the past, but didn't

G→page 168

3 **Match the two halves of each sentence.**

a If you did more revision, …
b If it snows, …
c If I have time, …
d If Helen comes round, …
e If there had been a vote, …
f If they finish early, …
g If you swam regularly, …
h If I'd known about the risk, …

1 we'll get our skis out.
2 she'll be able to tell you.
3 Sam and Bernie usually have a coffee.
4 you'd pass the exam.
5 I'd never have eaten seafood.
6 they would have lost.
7 I like to walk to work.
8 your body would be in better shape.

Conditionals with *unless*

4 **Read these examples and explain the meaning of *unless*.**

a We'll miss the start of the match unless Juan arrives soon.
b Unless you've already got tickets, you won't be able to get in.

Corpus spot

Correct any mistakes with *unless* that exam candidates have made in these sentences. Tick the correct sentences.

a There will be no improvement in my tennis unless I don't get some training.
b I will not remain silent about the letter unless you give me my money back.
c People hardly ever use candlelight today unless there isn't anything wrong with the power supply.
d There isn't much to do in the city unless you haven't got friends.
e You must stop working so hard unless you don't want to end up in hospital sooner or later.
f If there were no televisions, we wouldn't know much about other countries unless we visited them.

5 **There are eight mistakes with tenses in this story. Correct the mistakes and fill the gaps with *if* or *unless*. Examples have been done for you.**

Yesterday was a very bad day. **(0)** *If* ~~it wasn't~~ *hadn't been* raining, perhaps it wouldn't have been so difficult. The thing is, I never drive to work **(1)** ..... it's raining. But it was pouring and I needed to get to an important meeting, so I took the car. It broke down on the way. **(2)** ..... I had it serviced regularly, I know it won't be so unreliable, but garages charge so much these days that I don't bother. I decided to call the breakdown company on my mobile phone. Well, I would have done that **(3)** ..... my mobile hasn't run out of battery! Never mind, I thought, **(4)** ..... I'll find a public phone, I'll be able to call from there **(5)** ..... it's out of order! It was, so I can't! By this time, I was in a panic. What will my boss say **(6)** ..... I didn't get to the meeting? **(7)** ..... people don't arrive on time, he will get really angry with them. Luckily, a taxi pulled up. 'Mason Square,' I shouted, 'and **(8)** ..... you will do the journey in under ten minutes, I'll pay you double!' 'Forget it,' said the driver. 'The centre of town's gridlocked. You'd never get there in ten minutes **(9)** ..... you went by helicopter.' So I ended up late for the meeting and the boss was furious with me.

LIVEWORKSHEETS