5.2 First Conditional

We use First Conditional sentences to talk about the possible results of an action. First Conditional sentences refer to the future:

If I **tell** them the truth, they **won't believe** me.
He **won't pass** his exams if he **doesn't work** hard.
Will he **pass** his exams **if** he **works** hard?

We use the Present Simple in the *if*-clause, which describes the condition. We use *will/won't* in the clause describing the result. Either clause may come first in the sentence. We put a comma at the end of the *if*-clause if it comes first in the sentence.

If Vicky pays attention in **class**, she will do her homework well.
Vicky will do her homework **well if** she pays attention in class.

If + Present Simple (condition),	will/won't + infinitive (result)
If he **works** hard, **If** George **is** late again,	he **will pass his** exams. the teacher **will send** him to the head teacher.

will/won't + infinitve (result)	if + Present Simple (condition)
He **will pass** his exams The teacher **will send** George to the head teacher	**if** he **works** hard. **if** he **is** late again.

3 Put the words in the correct order to make beginnings of sentences. Then match the beginnings (1–5) with the endings (a–e).

1 Andy / carry / will / bag / if / it's / your ☐
_____

2 If / show / watch / you / carefully, / I'll ☐
_____

3 I / you / don't / won't / understand / you / if ☐
_____

4 If / we'll / now, / don't / we / be / leave ☐
_____

5 I / you / help / if / don't / you / won't ☐
_____

a you what to do.
b speak more slowly.
c help me.
d too heavy.
e late for the exam.

4 Write sentences from the prompts. Use the First Conditional.

1 You / not / make friends / if / not speak / new people
_____

2 If / Adam / study / London / improve / English
_____

3 If / I / not / fall asleep / I / finish / my homework
_____

4 We / take / Sociology / next year / if / on the timetable
_____

5 Mum / not happy / if / not pass / my exams
_____

5 Complete the First Conditional sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1 If you _____ (not go) abroad, you _____ (not learn) a foreign language.
2 If you _____ (not take) it easy, you _____ (get) sick.
3 Sue _____ (waste) her time if she _____ (go) travelling.
4 _____ (you/phone) me if you _____ (have) time?
5 If it _____ (cost) too much, I _____ (buy) a smaller one.
6 If he _____ (go) backpacking, he _____ (spend) less.
7 She _____ (do) voluntary work if she _____ (go) to Africa.
8 You _____ (miss) the train if you _____ (get up) late.