

If I have a holiday this summer, I'll go to London.



If I go to London, I'll see the Houses of Parliament.



As soon as I arrive in London, I'll try fish and chips!



If you go to London in the summer, you won't see the Queen. She always spends the summer in Scotland.



## Presentation

Use the first conditional to talk about:

- future possibility: *If I go to London this summer, I'll visit the Houses of Parliament.*
- things which are generally true: *If you go to London in the summer, you won't see the Queen.*

| If clause |                       | main clause                        |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| If        | present simple        | will/won't                         |
| If        | I go to London,       | I'll see the Houses of Parliament. |
| If        | you go in the summer, | you won't see the Queen.           |

When the *if* clause comes first, we use a comma between the two clauses.

*If I go on holiday this summer, I'll visit London.*

When the main clause comes before the *if* clause, do not use a comma:

*I'll visit London if I go on holiday this summer.*

***when, as soon as, unless, until, before***

We use similar sentences with *when, as soon as, unless, until, before* to talk about the future.

| If clause  |                       | main clause                  |
|------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| When       | present simple        | will / won't                 |
| When       | you arrive in London, | you'll take the underground. |
| As soon as | I arrive in London,   | I'll try fish and chips.     |

Always use a present tense, not a future form, after these expressions.

*They'll stay at the hotel **until** the tour bus **arrives**.*

*We'll have a rest **before** we **go out** this evening.*

**Unless = if not**

*We'll go sightseeing **unless the weather is bad**. (= if the weather isn't bad.)*

## Exercises

## 1 Choose the correct verb.

- 1 If my train is late, I *give* / *'ll give* you a call.
- 2 They *see* / *'ll see* Buckingham Palace if they're in London.
- 3 If you *go* / *'ll go* to England, it'll rain.
- 4 He'll pass his exams if he *studies* / *will study*.
- 5 I *take* / *'ll take* a taxi if there isn't a bus.
- 6 If we don't book tickets for the theatre, we *don't* / *won't* get a seat.
- 7 I won't wait for you if you *don't* / *won't* call me.
- 8 If you go to Oxford Street in London, *do* / *will* you buy me a souvenir?
- 9 When she *arrives* / *will arrive* at the station, I'll go and get her.
- 10 I'll have something to eat before we *leave* / *'ll leave*.

## 2 Match 1–5 with a–e and complete the sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 When you finish your homework,
  - 2 They won't help
  - 3 I'll talk to you
  - 4 Before he leaves,
  - 5 She won't get fit
- a unless you ..... them. (ask)
  - b we ..... the film. (watch)
  - c as soon as this TV program ..... (finish)
  - d until she ..... doing regular exercise. (start)
  - e he ..... you a text to say he's on his way. (send)

## 3 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence.

- 1 You won't pass the exam if you don't study.  
You won't pass the exam unless .....
- 2 We'll go camping this weekend if it doesn't rain.  
We'll go camping this weekend unless .....
- 3 I'll drive you to the airport tomorrow if John doesn't want to.  
I'll drive you to the airport tomorrow unless .....
- 4 We don't go out in the evenings unless we have a babysitter.  
We don't go out in the evenings if .....
- 5 That plant will die unless you water it.  
That plant will die if .....

## 4 Complete sentences about your next summer holiday so they are true for you.

- 1 If I go on holiday this summer, I'll go to .....
- 2 As soon as I arrive there, I .....
- 3 If I go sightseeing, I .....
- 4 Unless I .....