The fox and the crow



A crow was sitting at the top of a tall tree, holding a large piece of meat in his beak. Underneath the tree was a big, hungry fox. When he saw the meat the fox thought, 'I wish I had that meat. If only I could make that silly old crow drop it, I could have it for supper.' So he said, 'Mr Crow, you are the most beautiful bird i have ever seen. If only I were as beautiful as you! I am sure that you sing beautifully too.'

The crow was very pleased to hear this and opened his beak to show how well he could sing. Of course, he dropped the meat. The fox quickly ran and picked it up. The crow was furious. He shouted at the fox: 'If you hadn't spoken to me, I wouldn't have dropped the meat. Give it back to me at once! The fox just laughed and ran off with the meat. That evening, the fox was happy and he had a full stomach. He smiled and thought, 'Silly old crow, if only he had been born with a brain, he could have eaten the meat himself!'

The rat and the lion

A rat was walking through the forest one day when he trod on a lion's paw. 'I wish I hadn't done that,' he thought. 'The lion will probably eat me now.' Fortunately the lion was in a good mood, so he let the rat go free. The rat thanked the lion and promised to repay his kindness. A few weeks later, while he was out hunting, the lion accidentally got caught in a net. 'If I hadn't been so careless, I wouldn't have fallen into his trap. If only I could escape from it,' he thought. He struggled for a long time but he could not break the net. He roared as loudly as he could and all the animals of the forest ran to help him. They tried to rescue the lion, but none of them was able to. 'I wish we could help you,' said the wolf, 'but we are not strong enough.' The rat was determined to help his friend. He started chewing through the net. Two hours later, the lion was free. The lion was very grateful: 'If you hadn't trodden on my paw last week, we wouldn't have met,' he said, 'and I might have died.'

Conditional sentences Type 3

We use the third type of conditional sentence:

- To express regret about a situation in the past
- Hypothesis about the past
- Theoretical past situation
- An impossible situation because it had already happened
- Regret

Structure:

If	Subject	had + past participle verb (PAST PERFECT TENSE)	. . . ,	Subject	would woudn't	have	past participle verb

Example Sentences

If you **had worked** harder, you **would have passed** your exam.

If she **had found** his phone number, she **might have called** him for the party.

If I **could have spoken** english very well, I **would have talked** to the tourists in Paris.

If I **had found** her address, I **would have sent** her an invitation.

If she **had driven** carefully, she **wouldn't have had** an accident.

Complete the sentences with the past perfect of the words in brackets, or with would/wouldn't have + past participle.

1 If the crow hadn't been in the tree, the fox _____(not see) him.

2 If the fox _____(not be) hungry, he wouldn't have wanted the crow's meat.

3 If the fox hadn't been so clever, he _____(not trick) the crow.

4 If the crow hadn't been so silly, he _____(not listen) to the fox.

5 If the crow _____ (not open) his beak, he wouldn't have dropped the meat.

6 If the fox hadn't had a full stomach, he _____(not be) happy.

7 If the lion had been in a bad mood, he _____(eat) the rat.

8 If the rat hadn't been grateful, he _____(not promise) to repay the lion's kindness.

9 If the lion _____ (not be) careless, he wouldn't have fallen into the net.

10 If animals _____ (not hear) the lion's roar, they wouldn't have gone to help him.

11 If the rat hadn't wanted to help the lion, he _____(not chew) through the net.

Complete the following sentences using the correct form of the verbs provided.

a If I had known my friend was in hospital, I _____ (go) to see her.

b I didn't see you in the pool yesterday. If I had seen you, I _____ (swim) with you.

c My mother didn't go to the gym yesterday. She _____ (go) if she had not been so tired.

d She _____ (not/ leave) home if her father had not disturbed her.

e If he had been looking in front of himself, he _____ (not/walk) into the wall.

f She was not thirsty. If she had been thirsty, she _____ (drink) some water.

g If my grandmother had gone to the university, she _____ (study) science.

h If I had known how to swim, I _____ (swim) when we went to the beach.

i If you had given a direct address to me, I _____ (find) that museum easily.

j If I had had enough money, I _____ (buy) a big house for myself.

k We _____ (go) for the picnic yesterday if the weather had not been rainy.

l If I _____ (know) her name I _____ (tell) you.

m If you _____ had asked me, I _____ would have told you.

n If you _____ hadn't helped me, I _____ (be) in real trouble.

o He _____ (die) if they _____ (not take) him to hospital in time.

p Jane _____ (come) if you _____ (invite) her.

q He _____ (help) you if you _____ (request) more politely.

r If I _____ (want) to, I _____ (marry) anybody I like. -Use could-

t If my grandmother _____ (be) alive, she _____ (be) 85 now.