

LEARN THIS! Mixed conditionals



Mixed conditionals are a mixture of second and third conditional sentences. They occur when the *if* clause and main clause refer to different times (past and present).

(past) *If he'd read the map, (present) we wouldn't be lost.*

(present) *If he could drive, (past) he'd have got the job.*

Complete the dialogue. Use the verbs in their correct form to make mixed conditional sentences.

answer buy go have leave

Lee Are you going to the fundraising concert later?

May No, but I ¹_____ a ticket if I didn't have so much homework.

Lee That's a shame. If you'd finished your homework, you ²_____ with me.

May Anyway, isn't it sold out?

Lee It is now – and if I hadn't seen Leo last night, I ³_____ a ticket either, but he had two spare ones.

May Why didn't you let me know? I ⁴_____ the homework so late if I'd known you were going.

Lee Well, I might have called you if you ⁵_____ your phone sometimes, but you're always studying!

Write mixed conditional sentences that mean the same as the first sentence. Use the words in brackets.

I didn't reply, because I can't hear you properly. (could)

Our car broke down this morning, so we have to walk to school now. (wouldn't)

He didn't vote because he's not interested in politics. (if)

Beth failed her exams so she isn't at college this year. (hadn't)

Because Max didn't go to university, he doesn't have a degree. (had)

I didn't help with cooking because I'm a terrible cook. (weren't)

The forecast isn't good so they didn't go out. (have)

She's afraid of flying so she took a boat. (taken)

He didn't help the tourist because he can't speak Greek. (would)

Because I didn't eat breakfast, I'm hungry. (be)

Jay isn't good at maths so he couldn't help us. (could)