5.2 Grammar

Zero, First and Second Conditionals

GRAMMAR Zero, First and Second Conditionals

Zero Conditional: things that are always true
if/when/unless + Present Simple, Present Simple/ imperative
When they complete the training, they are able to go to Mars.

First Conditional: possible situations in the future
if/unless + Present Simple, *will* + infinitive/imperative
If her dreams come true, she'll travel to Mars!

Second Conditional: unlikely or imaginary situations
if/unless + Past Simple, *would* + infinitive (without *to*)
What would life be like if you were an astronaut?

1 ● Choose the correct option.

1 If the rocket *launches* / *launched* at the right time, it will reach the moon in six weeks.
2 You won't see the comet *unless* / *if* you have a good telescope.
3 I always watch *Star Watch* if *it's* / *it will be* on TV.
4 I wouldn't go into space if you *pay* / *paid* me!
5 Would you study Astronomy if you *have* / *had* the chance?
6 If the weather isn't good, you *won't* / *will* see the planet clearly.

2 ●● Complete the sentences with the words below.

doesn't don't gets had (x2) switch will won't would (x2)

1 If I *had* enough money, I _____ buy a telescope.
2 If it _____ rain tonight, we _____ see the moon.
3 I _____ travel more if I _____ more time.
4 If the computer _____ too hot, _____ it off.
5 My parents _____ be happy if I _____ pass my exams.

3 ●● Choose the correct option.

Interviewer: Good afternoon, Colin. How are the preparations for the next mission going?
Colin: Very well, thanks. If the weather [1]*is* / *was* good, we'll leave Earth on Friday. Then, if everything goes well, we [2]*reach* / *will reach* the space station in two days.
Interviewer: Could anything go wrong?
Colin: Of course. For example, the weather might be bad. If that happened, we [3]*will* / *would* wait until it got better. Also, if any of the rocket's systems [4]*fail* / *failed*, we would use the emergency spacecraft to return to Earth.
Interviewer: Well, let's hope everything goes well. What do people need to do if they [5]*want* / *will want* to see the space station from Earth?
Colin: Well, you [6]*don't* / *won't* see the space station unless you have a good telescope. If you want to know when it passes over your area, [7]*check* / *checked* on our website.
Interviewer: Thanks very much, Colin, and good luck!

4 ●● Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.



Build your own telescope

If you [1] *want* (want) to see the stars and planets, you need a good quality telescope. Unfortunately, they aren't cheap. In fact, if you [2] _____ (want) to buy a really good one, you'd need to have a lot of money. But don't worry. If you really want to look at the stars, you [3] _____ (can) make your own telescope.

All you need is a cardboard tube – the ones you [4] _____ (use) if you want to send a poster by mail – and a couple of lenses. Make sure you cut the tube very straight. This is important as you [5] _____ (not be able) to change the focus unless it [6] _____ (be) absolutely straight. Then attach the lenses inside the tube. You can just slide them in, but if you [7] _____ (need) to make them secure, glue them in carefully. Finally, cover the other end of the tube with a piece of cardboard and make a small hole to look through.

Now you're ready to look at the stars! It's not the world's most powerful telescope, but if you [8] _____ (use) it on a clear night, you get some good views. If I [9] _____ (not have) mine, I wouldn't see nearly so much of the night sky.

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