

Conditional conjunctions and phrases

Function

There are other ways to express conditions beside using *if*. We can use *as / so long as, provided / providing (that), even if, in case, and unless*.

Form

Use	Example
Use <i>as long as</i> and <i>so long as</i> to mean "only if." It emphasizes the condition. <i>So long as</i> is slightly more formal than <i>as long as</i> .	Christopher is a lot of fun to be around as long as you agree with everything he says.
Use <i>provided (that)</i> and <i>providing (that)</i> in the same way you use <i>as</i> and <i>so long as</i> . <i>Provided / Providing (that)</i> is slightly more formal than <i>so long as</i> .	People think they can do whatever they want provided they don't break any laws.
Use <i>even if</i> to emphasize that something will happen, would happen, or would have happened whatever the condition.	I don't think we'll solve our energy problems even if we switch completely to renewable energy.
Use <i>in case</i> to talk about things you should do to prepare for a possible future event. It tends to be used for first conditionals and with imperatives.	I closed all the windows and put everything in the garage in case it rains tonight.
Use <i>unless</i> to mean "if ... not" or "except if." It is not used for impossible situations, so is not used in the third conditional.	Unless the governments provide more money for research, we'll never cure certain diseases.



A Unscramble the words to make sentences.

- 1 get help / I / unless / won't finish / the paper
I _____.
- 2 mistakes / there are / your science report / in case
Check _____.
- 3 the exam / you / studied / should pass / provided
You _____.
- 4 read it / your research / even if / wouldn't understand / I
I _____.
- 5 get permission / I / to the conference / can go / as long as
I _____.
- 6 higher / are / won't teach / the salaries / unless
People _____.
- 7 them / in case / later / your notes / you need
Save _____.
- 8 fine / practice / in the debate / as long as / will do / you
You _____.

B Choose the correct options.

- 1 Some people will break the rules **in case** / **even if** they have strict workplace guidelines.
- 2 I think anyone can succeed in life **as long as** / **unless** they have a curious mind.
- 3 Run your proposal by your supervisor **as long as** / **in case** she has any concerns.
- 4 **Even if** / **Provided** you get good grades, it will be hard to get a job without work experience.
- 5 Don't send the report in today **unless** / **in case** you want to make some changes tomorrow.
- 6 **Provided** / **Even if** you like helping people, a career in medicine can be very satisfying.
- 7 **As long as** / **In case** there are no ethical concerns, I think we can move forward.
- 8 I don't think this is the job for you **unless** / **provided** you can handle a lot of daily stress.