LANGUAGE IN ACTION

The second conditional

1 ☆ Circle the correct options.

1 If I could travel anywhere in the world, …
- a I'll visit a jungle.
- (b) I'd visit a jungle.
- c I visited a jungle.

2 I don't know what would happen …
- a if all the insects will disappear.
- b if all the insects would disappear.
- c if all the insects disappeared.

3 What would happen if …
- a we cut down all the rainforests?
- b we'd cut down all the rainforests?
- c would we cut down all the rainforests?

4 If I were you, …
- a I'd find out more information.
- b I found out more information.
- c I'm finding out more information.

5 People wouldn't buy plastic products …
- a if they have a better alternative.
- b if they had a better alternative.
- c if they'd have a better alternative.

2 ☆☆ Complete the second conditional sentences using the verbs in brackets.

1 If I *had* a bike, I would *use* it to go to school. (have / use)

2 I _____ out today if it _____ cold. (go / not be)

3 If they _____ near the sea, they _____ to the beach a lot. (live / go)

4 The waterfall _____ more interesting to look at if it _____ raining. (be / be)

5 If we _____ so much meat, we _____ so many rainforests. (not eat / not cut down)

6 Houses near the coast _____ in danger if sea levels _____ higher. (be / get)

3 ☆☆ Complete the blog post with the correct form of the verbs in the box to make second conditional sentences.

be (x3)	~~can~~	check	find
not continue	not use	~~try~~	

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If I [1] *could* do anything to help the planet, I [2] *would try* to stop people buying so many things with palm oil in them. If you [3] _____ the ingredients in the things you buy, you [4] _____ palm oil in many of them – from biscuits to toothpaste. It's a cheap form of oil, and our products [5] _____ more expensive if companies [6] _____ it.

The oil comes from trees which only grow in hot countries. This means that we need to cut down rainforests to grow them. This is a problem for the animals that live in rainforests, including the orangutan. If we [7] _____ to destroy their natural habitat, orangutans wouldn't be endangered. So, if there [8] _____ one useful thing everyone could do to protect the environment, it [9] _____ to buy things which don't contain palm oil.

4 ☆☆☆ Write second conditional sentences about the situations.

1 People use so much plastic. There is so much waste.
If people *didn't use so much plastic, there wouldn't be* so much waste.

2 I haven't got a recycling bin, so I don't recycle my rubbish.
If I _____ my rubbish.

3 People don't know about palm oil, so they buy products which use it.
If people _____ products which use it.

4 We don't use solar power in our country. There isn't enough sunlight.
If _____ solar power in our country.

5 Palm oil is cheap. That's why companies use it.
If palm oil _____ it.

LIVEWORKSHEETS