

The zero conditional is used to express general truths. In these sentences, there is a condition referred to using "if". This means, if something happens, another action can follow.

If the milk **smells** bad, I **don't drink** it.

If water **reaches** 100 degrees, it **boils**.

If people **are talking** all the time, I **can't concentrate**.

EXAMPLE

If I'm tired, I go to bed early.

FORM

To write a sentence in the zero conditional, we use,

- **If clause-present simple + Main clause-present simple.**

Example: If you heat ice, it melts.

- **Main clause-present simple + if clause-present simple.**

Example: Ice melts if you heat it.

When we use the first form of the sentence (starting with the "if" clause) you have to add a comma after the clause. You can also use "if" or "when".

PRACTICE

WHAT DO YOU DO IF/WHEN...

Read each clause and complete the rest using the zero conditional.

- 1 If a stranger talks to me in the street,
- 2 When you study a lot for a exam,
- 3 You get burned
- 4 When I wake up late,
- 5 If you eat too much junk food,
- 6 If it rains,
- 7 If I have a cold,
- 8 When you mix red and blue,
- 9 I never go to bed late if
- 10 If the weather is nice,

