

2nd conditional questions



Language focus

Use **2nd conditional questions** to ask someone what they would do in unlikely or impossible situations. These questions are formed in the following way:

Question word (what, who, where, etc.) + would + infinitive without to + if + past simple

What would you say if you met the president of the United States of America?

- 1** Complete the questions with the verbs from the box in the correct form.

be ~~can~~ own visit see have

- 1 What would you do if you could do any job?
- 2 What would you do if you _____ rich?
- 3 What would you do if you _____ New York?
- 4 What would you do if you _____ four extra hours every day?
- 5 What would you do if you _____ a space rocket?
- 6 What would you do if you _____ a tiger in the street?

2 Match answers a–f with the questions from Activity 1.

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| a I would give the money to people who need it. | _____ |
| b I would fly all the way to the moon. | _____ |
| c I'd make beautiful things out of wood and sell them for lots of money. | <u>1</u> _____ |
| d I'd climb a tree and then say, 'Hello.' | _____ |
| e I would sleep. | _____ |
| f I would take photographs of the skyscrapers. | _____ |

3 Complete the dialogue with the verbs from the box in the correct form.

meet go ~~do~~ have ask be

- Francois** Have you seen this website? There are lots and lots of questions – you know, what would you (1) do if ... ?
- Max** Ask me one.
- Francois** What would you (2) _____ if you could be anything?
- Max** Easy. Footballer. They make so much money. What about you?
- Francois** I'd be a painter, I think. OK. Another question – if you (3) _____ Lionel Messi, what would you say to him?
- Max** I'd ask him if he thinks he is better than Ronaldo. What about you?
- Francois** I don't think I'd like to meet him. All right – ready for another one?
- Max** Go on.
- Francois** Where would you (4) _____ if you could live anywhere in the world?
- Max** Hmm ... that's an interesting one. I think I'd live in Vancouver.
- Francois** OK, on we go. If you (5) _____ lots of money, what would you do with it?
- Max** I think I'd invent a new kind of spaceship and travel to distant galaxies.
- Francois** Last one – if you could (6) _____ me any question, what would you ask?
- Max** When's lunch?

4 Answer the questions.

- 1 What would you do if you could have any job?

- 2 What ability would you like to have if you could have any ability?

- 3 Who would you meet if you could meet anyone?

- 4 Where would you go if you could go anywhere?
