

A Twist in the Script

Last week, young director Anna Cooper was about to shoot the final scene of her indie film when something unexpected happened. The lead actor, Jake, broke his leg during a rehearsal. The crew panicked—without Jake, there was no ending. Anna had to make a quick decision. If she cancelled the shoot, they would lose the location and a lot of money. But if she replaced Jake, fans might be disappointed.

In the end, Anna made a bold move. She rewrote the scene to include a dramatic accident for Jake's character. The scene worked so well that the producer said, "If Jake hadn't broken his leg, we wouldn't have had such an emotional ending." Now, the film is getting attention at festivals, and Anna is already planning her next project.

Choose the correct answer:

1. Why was the final scene in danger?
 - a) The producer quit
 - b) The actor got injured
 - c) The camera broke
2. What were Anna's two options?
 - a) Cancel or continue with the same actor
 - b) Cancel or replace Jake
 - c) Rewrite the script or reshoot the film
3. What did Anna decide to do?
 - a) Cancel the film
 - b) Replace Jake
 - c) Rewrite the scene

4. What was the result of her decision?

- a) The ending was boring
- b) The film failed
- c) The film gained attention

Match words/phrases to meaning

Rehearsal

A. A brave or risky decision

Cancel the shoot

B. The main male performer

Indie film

C. Practice before the real performance

A bold move

D. Stop filming the scene

Lead actor

E. A movie not made by a big studio

Use in context

Complete the sentences with the correct word or phrase:

1. We watched an amazing _____ last night—it was made on a small budget.
2. They had to _____ because of the rain.
3. She made _____ by casting a new actor at the last minute.
4. During the _____, he forgot his lines.
5. The _____ gave a fantastic performance in the last scene.

Grammar Focus

Second Conditional – Explanation

We use the second conditional to talk about **imaginary or unlikely situations** in the present or future.

Structure:

If + past simple, would + base verb

- If Jake didn't break his leg, they would finish the scene.
- If I were Anna, I would rewrite the script.

Note: Use “were” for all subjects in more formal English (If I **were** you...).

Complete the sentences

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. If Anna _____ (have) more time, she would film another version.
2. They would lose money if they _____ (cancel) the shoot.
3. If Jake _____ (not break) his leg, the script wouldn't change.
4. If the location _____ (be) cheaper, they'd stay longer.
5. If fans _____ (be) unhappy, they would reshoot the scene.
6. Anna _____ (feel) terrible if she fired Jake.
7. If the accident _____ (not happen), the ending would be boring.
8. They'd be late if the camera crew _____ (not arrive) on time.
9. If she _____ (know) the risk, she might choose differently.
10. If I _____ (be) a director, I'd love to work with Anna.

Write your own

Write second conditional sentences using the prompts:

1. If I / be / a film star

2. If I / direct / a movie

3. If I / forget / my lines

4. If I / win / an award

5. If I / have / a famous co-star

6. If my film / go viral

7. If I / make / a mistake during filming

8. If I / change / the ending

9. If I / act / in a horror movie

10. If I / work / with a difficult actor

Wrap-up

- “What would you do if you were in Anna’s situation?”