

# The Third Conditional

if + past perfect, + would have + past participle

would have + past participle + if + past perfect

We use the *third conditional* when talking about **events that have already happened**. This is used when it is impossible for the condition to be fulfilled as the time for it to happen has already passed.

- If I **had started** earlier, I **would have finished** the work by now. Or:
- I **would have finished** the work by now if I **had started** earlier.

Exercises: Be sure to use the contracted form of the verb i.e. 'hadn't' rather than 'had not'.

- |            |                            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. If I    | (know) you were coming, I  | (bake) a cake.             |
| 2. If I    | (accept) that promotion, I | (work) in Milan.           |
| 3. If it   | (not/rain), I              | (got) wet.                 |
| 4. If she  | (see) the ball, it         | (not/hit) her on the head. |
| 5. If he   | (go) to art school, he     | (become) a painter.        |
| 6. They    | (be) late if they          | (not take) a taxi.         |
| 7. We      | (come) if we               | (be) invited.              |
| 8. I       | (call) you, if I           | (not/forgot) my phone.     |
| 9. If he   | (not/take) the job, he     | (not go) to Ireland.       |
| 10. I      | (be) able to pay you, if I | (not lost) my money.       |
| 11. If she | (cut) her hair, she        | (look) better.             |
| 12. If you | (help) me, I               | (finish) sooner.           |
| 13. We     | (not/do) it, if we         | (know) you were ill.       |
| 14. He     | (be) rich by now if he     | (become) a musician.       |
| 15. If he  | (eat) a proper lunch, he   | (not/be) hungry now.       |