

LESSON 18: Second + Third Conditional



If + Present Simple, Present Simple.

ZERO Conditional

If you heat water at 100 degrees, it boils.

Use: To talk about things that are always true, like a scientific fact

If + Present Simple, Simple Future.

FIRST Conditional

If it's sunny, we'll go to the park.

Use: To talk about possibilities in the present or in the future

→ If S + V(s/es), S + **will** + V(nguyên thể)...

SECOND Conditional

If + Past Simple, Present Conditional.

If I won a million dollars, I would buy a new car.

Use: Imaginary situations in the present or future

→ If S + (V-ed/irregular), S + would/could + V(nguyên thể)...

Notice that in the if clause, we can use **were** with I and with **he/she/it**:

If Jane were/was here, she would certainly help us.

If I were/was French, I'd live in Paris.

There is one expression where we always use **were**:

If I were you, I'd tell him. (NOT ~~If I was you~~, ...)

THIRD Conditional

If + Past Perfect, Perfect Conditional.

If the weather had been good, we would have gone water-skiing.

Use: Imagine situations in the past

If the weather had been good,
we would have gone water-skiing.

Use: Imagine situations in the past

→ If S + had + V(past participle), S + would/could + have + V(past participle)...

MIXED 1
Conditional

If + Past Perfect, Present Conditional.

If I **had listened** to your advice **yesterday**,
I **wouldn't be** in the trouble **now**.

Use: Present result of a past condition

If I **had listened** to your advice **yesterday**,
I **wouldn't be** in the trouble **now**.

Use: Present result of a past condition

If S + had + V(past participle), S + would/could + V(nguyên thể)...

type 3 type 2

PRACTICE

Exercise 1:

People imagine things that are not true

Write second conditional sentences using one expression from column A and one from column B, using the words in brackets and putting the verbs in the correct form.

my (live) in the country	he (not, get) stomach ache.
(enjoy) France more	I (tell) him the truth.
(be) you	if people (not fly) so much.
my father (eat) more slowly	if you (can) speak better French.
(be) less pollution	she (have) two or three dogs.

B

he (not, get) stomach ache.
I (tell) him the truth.
if people (not fly) so much.
if you (can) speak better French.
she (have) two or three dogs.

- 0 If Jenny lived in the country, she would have two or three dogs.
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Exercise 2: Write the sentences in conditionals.

1. Keep silent or you'll wake the baby up.
→ If you don't keep silent, you will wake the baby up.
2. Stop talking or you won't understand the lesson.
→ If.....
3. I don't know her number, so I don't ring her up.
→ If.....
4. I don't know the answer, so I can't tell you.
→ If
5. We got lost because we didn't have a map.
→ If
6. Susan felt sick because she ate four cream cakes.
→
7. Without this treatment, the patient would have died.
→
8. He lost his job because he was late every day.
→
9. Peter is fat because he eats so many chips.
→
10. Robert got a bad cough because he started smoking cigarettes.
→

Exercise 3: Complete the sentences, using the verbs in brackets.

- 1 If **(you / do)** your homework last night, you'd know the answer to this question!
- 2 We **(not / stand)** by the side of the road at the moment trying to get a lift if **(we / bring)** a spare tyre with us.
- 3 If I **(not / stay up)** so late last night, I **(not / feel)** so tired this morning!
- 4 **(I / be)** in terrible trouble right now if you **(not / help)** me.
- 5 If I had a video recorder, **(I / record)** the match last night.
- 6 **(I / ask)** for Andy's phone number when I met him if I **(not / already / have)** a boyfriend!