

Second Conditional

Condition <i>If + Past Simple</i>	Result <i>would = infinitive without to</i>
If the weather was good, If you didn't watch so much TV, If they trained more,	we would ('d) go swimming. you would ('d) have more time for sport. they wouldn't lose so many games.
Yes/No questions	Short answers
Would you run a marathon if you had the chance? If you wanted to be fitter, would you join a gym?	Yes, I would./No, I wouldn't. Yes, I would./No, I wouldn't.

We use the Second Conditional for

- unlikely or impossible situations in the present:
If they were taller, they would play in the basketball team.
- unlikely or impossible situations in the future:
If Sydney got the 2016 Olympic Games, I would be very surprised.
- to give advice
If I were you, I'd tell my parents the truth.

In a conditional sentence, the two parts of the sentence can be in any order. We use a comma when the *if* clause is first.

If you exercised more, you'd feel healthier.

= *You'd feel healthier if you exercised more.*

Wh- questions

Where would you live if you could live anywhere?

If you were an Olympic athlete, **what** sport would you do?

Mind the trap!

With the verb *be*, we use *was* in informal speech and writing but *were* in formal speaking and writing.

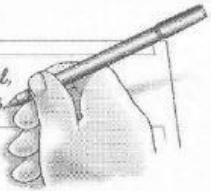
For example, student Jane says:

If I was more careful, I'd make fewer mistakes.



Her teacher writes:

If Jane were more careful, she'd make fewer mistakes.



Complete the Second Conditional sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I'd help (help) you if I had (have) the time.
- 2 If it _____ (be) windier, we _____ (go) sailing.
- 3 If you _____ (do) an extreme sport, which one _____ it _____ (be)?
- 4 I _____ (go) surfing every day if I _____ (live) in California.
- 5 If you _____ (be) better at judo, you _____ (have) a black belt.
- 6 If I _____ (run) a kilometre, it _____ (kill) me.
- 7 If I _____ (not live) so far from the mountains, I _____ (go) skiing more often.
- 8 Which martial art _____ you _____ (do) if you _____ (have) the time?
- 9 How _____ you _____ (feel) if you _____ (win) an Olympic medal?
- 10 I _____ (relax) more if I _____ (be) you.