

# Conditionals

1 Match the sentence beginnings (1–10) with the endings (a–j).

- 1 If you find an injured bat,
- 2 If the red light is flashing on the camera,
- 3 If you could change your career,
- 4 If only you'd got here earlier,
- 5 If I were you,
- 6 If the red light had been flashing on my camera,
- 7 Should these symptoms persist,
- 8 Unless we get up at 5 o'clock
- 9 Let's take the metro,
- 10 Provided you've got a map,

- a I would have changed the batteries.
- b change the batteries.
- c otherwise we'll get stuck in traffic.
- d I'd buy the bigger suitcase.
- e you wouldn't have missed the start of the film.
- f we'll get stuck in traffic.
- g take it to an animal protection group.
- h you shouldn't get lost.
- i go and see your doctor.
- j what would you do?

2  The Cambridge English Corpus shows that advanced learners often make mistakes with conditional structures. Correct these sentences written by exam candidates.

- 1 It would be better whether we could meet more often.  
.....
- 2 We would like to know if or not you will be ready on the wedding day.  
.....
- 3 I also would like to say that the bus was late.  
.....
- 4 It should be advisable to arrive earlier next time.  
.....
- 5 It might be even possible to borrow the books from him.  
.....
- 6 If it will to make you feel better, I will close the window.  
.....

3 Write conditional sentences from these prompts. More than one answer may be possible.

- 1 you / require / any further information / please / hesitate / contact me  
.....
- 2 you / turn / page ten of the report / you / find / a summary  
.....
- 3 it / not / for Alison / the company / in trouble now  
.....
- 4 Open the window / if / it / make / you / feel / cooler.  
.....
- 5 I / see / Jane tonight / unless / she / busy.  
.....

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## Writing

1 Do the writing task below. Make sure you check the writing tips.

You have attended a discussion on the importance of children having the opportunity to look after an animal. You have made the notes below.

### Reasons why children should look after an animal:

- education
- personal
- physical

### Some opinions expressed during the discussion:

'Children can learn a lot, in a fun way, by taking care of a pet.'  
'It teaches children how to be responsible.'  
'If a child takes a dog for a walk, it's a good chance to get away from the computer and get some fresh air.'

Write an **essay** for your teacher discussing two of the reasons in your notes. You should explain **which reason is more important** and provide **reasons to support your opinion**. You may, if you wish, make use of the opinions expressed in the discussion, but you should use your own words as far as possible. Write your answer in 220–260 words.

### Writing tips

- Read the task instructions very carefully.
- Decide which two reasons you are going to write about.
- Decide how many paragraphs you need and what to put in each one.
- Write your first draft.
- Check it yourself, or give it to someone else to check.
- Write your final draft.