

If I have a holiday this summer, I'll go to London.



If I go to London, I'll see the Houses of Parliament.



As soon as I arrive in London, I'll try fish and chips!



If you go to London in the summer, you won't see the Queen. She always spends the summer in Scotland.



Presentation

Use the first conditional to talk about:

- future possibility: *If I go to London this summer, I'll visit the Houses of Parliament.*
- things which are generally true: *If you go to London in the summer, you won't see the Queen.*

If clause		main clause
If	present simple	will/won't
If	I go to London,	I'll see the Houses of Parliament.
If	you go in the summer,	you won't see the Queen.

When the *if* clause comes first, we use a comma between the two clauses.

If I go on holiday this summer, I'll visit London.

When the main clause comes before the *if* clause, do not use a comma:

I'll visit London if I go on holiday this summer.

when, as soon as, unless, until, before

We use similar sentences with *when, as soon as, unless, until, before* to talk about the future.

If clause		main clause
When	present simple	will / won't
When	you arrive in London,	you'll take the underground.
As soon as	I arrive in London,	I'll try fish and chips.

Always use a present tense, not a future form, after these expressions.

*They'll stay at the hotel **until** the tour bus **arrives**.*

*We'll have a rest **before** we **go out** this evening.*

Unless = if not

*We'll go sightseeing **unless the weather is bad**. (= if the weather isn't bad.)*

Exercises

1 Choose the correct verb.

- 1 If my train is late, I *give* / *'ll give* you a call.
- 2 They *see* / *'ll see* Buckingham Palace if they're in London.
- 3 If you *go* / *'ll go* to England, it'll rain.
- 4 He'll pass his exams if he *studies* / *will study*.
- 5 I *take* / *'ll take* a taxi if there isn't a bus.
- 6 If we don't book tickets for the theatre, we *don't* / *won't* get a seat.
- 7 I won't wait for you if you *don't* / *won't* call me.
- 8 If you go to Oxford Street in London, *do* / *will* you buy me a souvenir?
- 9 When she *arrives* / *will arrive* at the station, I'll go and get her.
- 10 I'll have something to eat before we *leave* / *'ll leave*.

2 Match 1–5 with a–e and complete the sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 When you finish your homework,
 - 2 They won't help
 - 3 I'll talk to you
 - 4 Before he leaves,
 - 5 She won't get fit
- a unless you them. (ask)
 - b we the film. (watch)
 - c as soon as this TV program (finish)
 - d until she doing regular exercise. (start)
 - e he you a text to say he's on his way. (send)

3 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence.

- 1 You won't pass the exam if you don't study.
You won't pass the exam unless
- 2 We'll go camping this weekend if it doesn't rain.
We'll go camping this weekend unless
- 3 I'll drive you to the airport tomorrow if John doesn't want to.
I'll drive you to the airport tomorrow unless
- 4 We don't go out in the evenings unless we have a babysitter.
We don't go out in the evenings if
- 5 That plant will die unless you water it.
That plant will die if

4 Complete sentences about your next summer holiday so they are true for you.

- 1 If I go on holiday this summer, I'll go to
- 2 As soon as I arrive there, I
- 3 If I go sightseeing, I
- 4 Unless I