

MURPHY'S LAW



If you change queues at the supermarket, what will happen? The queue you were in before, will move more quickly. You know what will happen because there's a law of life that says, *if something bad can happen, it will happen*. It's called **Murphy's Law** and it took its name from Captain Edward Murphy, an American aeroplane engineer from the 1940s.

He was investigating why planes crashed, and not surprisingly, he got a reputation for always thinking of the worst possible scenario... in every situation!

AT HOME

- 1) If you wash your car, ____
- 2) If you look for something you lost, ____

SOCIAL LIFE

- 3) If you wear something white, ____
- 4) If someone near you is smoking, ____

TRANSPORT

- 5) If you stop waiting for the bus and start walking, ____
- 6) If you get to the station and a train is just leaving, ____

SHOPPING

- 7) If you find something in a shop that you really like, ____
- 8) If you take something that doesn't work back to the shop, ____

a. You will spill wine or coffee on it.

b. They won't have it in your size.

c. It will rain.

d. The smoke will always do directly to you.

e. It'll be your train.

f. It'll start working.

g. You'll find it in the last place you look.

h. The bus will come.

SPEAKING

Work in small groups. How can you finish these Murphy's Laws?

- If you're single and you meet someone you really like, ...
- If you throw something away, ...
- If you're driving somewhere and you're in a hurry, ...
- If you get to work late, ...
- If you forget your mobile at home, ...
- If the door says "pull", ...

FIRST CONDITIONAL

*If I **miss** the bus, I'll get a taxi.*

*I'll get a taxi if I **miss** the bus.*

*If she **studies** for the exam, she **won't fail**.*

*She **won't fail** if she **studies** for the exam.*

*If it **rains**, what **will** you **do**?*

*What **will** you **do** at the weekend if it **rains**?*

- Use **IF + present simple, WILL + infinitive** to talk about a possible future situation and its consequence.
- The **IF-CLAUSE** can come first or second. Don't forget to add a comma (,) if you write it first.

LET'S PRACTICE

a. Complete with the correct form of the verbs.

1. If you _____ (tell) me your secret, I _____ (not tell) anybody.
2. If we _____ (start) walking, the bus _____ (come).
3. He _____ (be) angry if you _____ (not tell) him about the party.
4. If I _____ (not write) down, I _____ (not remember) it.
5. _____ you _____ (call) me if you _____ (have) any news?
6. If you _____ (ask) her nicely, she _____ (help) you.

VOCABULARY

b. Match the words with the pictures.



PLANE

LOTTERY

TRAFFIC JAM

CIGARETTE

SUITCASE

WIFE

MINUTES

SPOON

FLY

CHARDONNAY

KNIFE

SIGN

IRONIC – Alanis Morissette

An old man turned ninety-eight

He won the _____ and died the next day.

It's a black _____ on your _____

It's a death row pardon, two _____ too late

And isn't it ironic, don't you think?

CHORUS

It's like rain _____ when you've already paid

It's a free ride _____ It figures

It's the good advice _____ on your wedding day

And who would've thought _____ that you just didn't take

Mr. Play it Safe was afraid to fly

He packed his _____ and kissed his kids goodbye

He waited his whole dam life to take that _____

And as the _____ crashed down, he thought

"Well, isn't this nice?"

And isn't it ironic, don't you think?

CHORUS

Well, life has a funny way of sneaking up on you

When you think everything's okay

And everything's going right.

And life has a funny way of helping you out

When you think everything's gone wrong

And everything blows up in your face.

A _____ when you're already late

A no-smoking _____ on your _____ break

It's like ten thousand _____ when all you need is a _____

It's meeting the man of your dreams,

and then meeting his beautiful _____

And isn't it ironic, don't you think?

A little too ironic, and yeah I really do think

CHORUS