

Conditionals

describe the result of a certain condition.

The *if* clause tells you the condition (*If you don't study*) and the main clause tells you the result (*you won't pass your exams*). The order of the clauses does not change the meaning.

If they _____ hard, they _____ their exams.

They will pass their exams if they study hard.

Conditional sentences are often divided into different types.

ZERO CONDITIONAL

We use the zero conditional to talk about things that are generally true as a result of an action or situation

If she _____ too much coffee, she can't sleep at night.

Water _____ if you heat it.

If my friend has a problem, I always _____.

I always _____ if my friend has a problem.

When the sun _____ down, it gets dark.

Structure : **if/when** + present simple + , + present simple.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

We use the first conditional when we talk about future situations we believe are real or possible.

If it _____ tomorrow, we'll go to the beach.

I will buy a drink if I _____ thirsty.

When I finish my homework, I _____ you.

Structure: **if/when** + present simple + , + will + infinitive.

It is also common to use this structure with **unless, as long as, as soon as** or **in case** instead of **if**.

I'll leave as soon as the babysitter arrives.

I don't want to stay in London unless I get a well-paid job.

I'll give you a key in case I'm not at home.

You can go to the party, as long as you're back by midnight.

SECOND CONDITIONAL

The second conditional is used to talk about 'unreal' present or future situations , i.e. things that are not happening or will not happen

If we _____ a garden, we could have a dog.

If I won a lot of money, I _____ a house in the country.

I wouldn't worry if I _____ you.

If I _____ the lottery, I'd buy a car.

Structure : **if + past simple + , + would + infinitive.**

When *if* is followed by the verb *be*, it is grammatically correct to say **if I were**, *if he were*, *if she were* and *if it were*. However, it is also common to hear these structures with *was*, mainly with *he/she*.

If I were you, I _____ my pocket money.

She could buy some clothes if she _____ more money.

If he was prime minister, he _____ more money in schools.

She _____ more if she was younger.

THIRD CONDITIONAL

The third conditional is used to talk about possible events in the past which did not happen.

If he had understood the instructions properly, he would have passed the exam.

We wouldn't have got lost if my phone _____ out of battery.

If they _____ lots of water, they could have died in the desert.

If I had known about the piranhas, I _____ in the river.

Structure: ***If + past perfect + , + would have + past participle.***