

The Third Conditional

if + past perfect, + would have + past participle

would have + past participle + if + past perfect

We use the *third conditional* when talking about **events that have already happened**. This is used when it is impossible for the condition to be fulfilled as the time for it to happen has already passed.

- If I **had started** earlier, I **would have finished** the work by now. Or:
- I **would have finished** the work by now if I **had started** earlier.

Exercises: Be sure to use the contracted form of the verb i.e. 'hadn't' rather than 'had not'.

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| 1. If I | (know) you were coming, I | (bake) a cake. |
| 2. If I | (accept) that promotion, I | (work) in Milan. |
| 3. If it | (not/rain), I | (got) wet. |
| 4. If she | (see) the ball, it | (not/hit) her on the head. |
| 5. If he | (go) to art school, he | (become) a painter. |
| 6. They | (be) late if they | (not take) a taxi. |
| 7. We | (come) if we | (be) invited. |
| 8. I | (call) you, if I | (not/forgot) my phone. |
| 9. If he | (not/take) the job, he | (not go) to Ireland. |
| 10. I | (be) able to pay you, if I | (not lost) my money. |
| 11. If she | (cut) her hair, she | (look) better. |
| 12. If you | (help) me, I | (finish) sooner. |
| 13. We | (not/do) it, if we | (know) you were ill. |
| 14. He | (be) rich by now if he | (become) a musician. |
| 15. If he | (eat) a proper lunch, he | (not/be) hungry now. |