



## Grammar: CONDITIONALS



Here is a chart to help you : you will visualize the basic English conditionals. Do not take the percentages figures too literally: they only help you to understand.

probability	conditional	example	time
100% ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■	zero conditional	If you <b>smoke</b> , you roughly <b>spend</b> 10€ per packet depending on the brand.	any time
50% ■ ■ ■	first conditional	If I <b>start</b> smoking, I <b>will</b> <b>spend</b> 10€ per pack.	any time
10% ■	second conditional	If I <b>smoked</b> , I <b>would spend</b> 10€ per pack.	future
0 %	third conditional	If Jerry <b>had started</b> smoking in his youth, he <b>would have wasted</b> a lot of money.	past

Adapted from [www.issanclemente.net](http://www.issanclemente.net)

- Quand on **fume**, on dépense à peu près 10€ par paquet selon la marque.
- Si je **me mets** à fumer, je dépenserai 10€ par paquet.
- Si je **fumais**, je dépenserais 10€ par paquet.
- Si Jerry **avait commencé** à fumer dans sa jeunesse, il **aurait gaspillé** beaucoup d'argent.

**Click on the following link and read the lesson in French:**

<https://www.mosalingua.com/blog/2018/02/21/conditionnel-anglais-lecon/>

**Now complete the following exercises to practise:**

**Exercise 1:** complete with the correct form of the verb given in brackets.

1. If I **smoke** 10 cigarettes a day instead of\* 20 for 10 years, I \_\_\_\_\_ (save) more than 25,000€!!! If I don't do it, I \_\_\_\_\_ (waste) 50,000€ (FIFTY THOUSAND!!) (based on price increasing 6% annually).
2. If I **stop** smoking for 3 months, I \_\_\_\_\_ (not spend) about 100€.



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3. If my cousin had 5 cigarettes a day instead of\* 20, he \_\_\_\_\_ (save) 225€ every month.

4. If my aunt had never smoked, she \_\_\_\_\_ (save) more than 145,000€ in 20 years as she smokes a whole pack a day. She \_\_\_\_\_ (can buy) a one-bedroom flat (UK) on the French Riviera (= a two-room apartment (US)).

5. If I \_\_\_\_\_ (stop) smoking for a year, I would be able to pay my driving licence.

6. If my dad \_\_\_\_\_ (give up\*) smoking 15 years ago, he would have been able to buy a brand new\* luxury Audi Q5, not once, but twice!!!! (He's been smoking a pack a day since he was 17).

7. If I convince my best friend Emma to cut down\* on smoking, she \_\_\_\_\_ (not spend) as much money and she \_\_\_\_\_ (can afford) the latest iPhone 12 within 6 months, that is\* if she halves\* her everyday consumption.

\*instead of = au lieu de (+ noun or = BV-ing)

\*that is = c'est-à-dire, autrement dit

\*to cut down on something = to reduce

\*to give up something = to stop

\*to halve = to reduce by 50%

\*brand new = not second-hand, not used.

### Exercise 2: More practice!

1. What would you do if it \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) on your wedding day?

2. If she comes I \_\_\_\_\_ (call) you.

3. If I eat peanut butter I \_\_\_\_\_ (get) sick.

4. What will you do if you \_\_\_\_\_ (fail) your marketing exam?

5. If they \_\_\_\_\_ (take) the car I would have given you a lift. (=drive you somewhere)

6. If it snows \_\_\_\_\_ you still \_\_\_\_\_ (drive) to the coast?

7. He \_\_\_\_\_ (go) with you if you had asked him.

8. If I won a million dollars I \_\_\_\_\_ (buy) my own plane.

9. When I forget her birthday Andrea \_\_\_\_\_ (get) upset.

10. Jacob will pick you up at the university if it \_\_\_\_\_ (rain).



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**Exercise 3:** Read a short dialogue from a final project meeting (all conditional sentences are underlined)

Words you might want to look up on Word Reference before reading the dialogue:

It's worth doing it	Let's face it	achievable/ to achieve
to point out	a requirement	a milestone
definitely	a brief	whole
to face a problem	to add	

**Peggy:** Who would like to start?

**Manuela:** I can! So, all in all, I think we've done pretty well. But, of course, there are some things worth pointing out. During our next project, we definitely need to read the project brief more carefully. As you all know, this time we didn't and because of this, we faced some serious problems. For example, if we hadn't missed the functionality requirement described in the last point of the brief, we wouldn't be working on it now.

**John:** Yeah, I agree with you. What I would also like to add is that we have to work on setting achievable milestones. I feel that we are sometimes a little over-optimistic. If we were more realistic when planning projects, we would have achieved all of the project's goals on time.

**Peggy:** Sure, that's something we need to work on, but, let's face it, it's not easy to change personality. Nevertheless, there is one more thing I want to discuss. We need to remember that every project is a joint effort by the whole team and not just one person. For sure, we need to give thanks to you, Manuela. I feel that if you weren't such a good team player and hard worker, we wouldn't have done so well.

Source: [ESL Brains](http://ESL Brains)