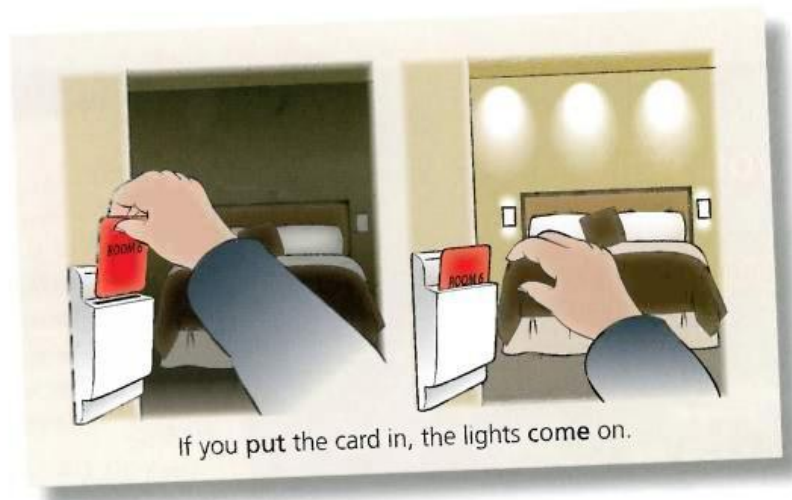


## 69 Present conditions



### 1 Form

CONDITION ( <i>if ...</i> ) present tense	RESULT present tense
<i>If you <b>put</b> the card in,</i>	<i>the lights <b>come on</b>.</i>
<i>If you <b>look</b> directly at the sun,</i>	<i>it <b>damages</b> your eyes.</i>
<i>If plants <b>don't</b> get water,</i>	<i>they <b>die</b>.</i>
<i>If you <b>need</b> any help,</i>	<i>ask the teacher.</i>

When we are talking about real situations in the present, BOTH verbs are in the present tense. Notice the position of the comma (,):

*If you **put** the card in, the lights **come on**.*

If we write the result first, a comma is not necessary:

*The lights **come on** if you **put** the card in.*

*Plants **die** if they **don't** get water.*

### 2 Use

We use *if* or *when* + present tenses

- to talk about real situations:  
*If you **turn** the key, the engine **starts**.*
- to say that one event always follows another:  
*When I **go** to bed late, I **feel** tired the next day.*
- to describe rules:  
*If a player **drops** the ball, he/she **is** out.*

**NATURAL ENGLISH** When we are speaking to someone, we often use the *if* part of the sentence alone:

*'Do you like curry?' 'Yes, **if it's not too spicy**.'*

We use *if* + the imperative to give instructions or advice:

*If it's **raining**, **take** an umbrella.*



Notice that we don't repeat the subject:

~~*X If you want more information, you look on our website.*~~

*✓ If you want more information, look on our website.*



We don't use *to* after *please*:

~~*X If you need anything, please to call reception.*~~

*✓ If you need anything, please call reception.*

## Practice

- 1 Complete the sentences. Use the words from the box.

### The Automatic House



- 0 When your car enters the drive, the garage doors .....*open*.....
- 1 If you ..... into a room, the lights come on.
- 2 When you ..... on the sofa, the TV switches on.
- 3 When you ..... the taps, water comes out.
- 4 ..... it is hot, the windows open.
- 5 If it ..... cold, the heating system turns on.
- 6 If you ..... the house, the door locks itself.

gets  
leave  
*open*  
sit  
touch  
walk  
when

- 2 Match the two parts of the sentences. Then choose the correct words in *italics*.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 0 If you turn the key,  | A your skin gets burnt.                                |
| 1 When I drink too much coffee,                                     | B when I <i>am</i> / <i>will be</i> late for work.     |
| 2 If you <i>stay</i> / <i>will stay</i> in the sun for a long time, | C the engine( <i>starts</i> ) / <i>started</i> .       |
| 3 If you need more information,                                     | D if you <i>have</i> / <i>had</i> any problems.        |
| 4 My boss gets angry  | E <i>press</i> / <i>you will press</i> the red button. |
| 5 If the machine doesn't start,                                     | F I <i>get</i> / <i>will get</i> a headache.           |
| 6 You <i>don't</i> / <i>didn't</i> need a passport                  | G if you never travel anywhere.                        |
| 7 Phone this number   | H please <i>to visit</i> / <i>visit</i> our website.   |

- 3 **GRAMMAR IN USE** There are five more grammar mistakes in the text. Find and correct them.

### Welcome to the **PENRITH HOTEL**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| + All our rooms are non-smoking. If you <sup>wish</sup> <del>wished</del> to smoke, please use the balcony. | + Guests must leave their rooms by 12.00. Please contact reception when you plan to leave after 12.00. |
| + If you want breakfast in your room, please to phone reception.  | + If there is a fire, please leaving by the stairs; do not use the lift.                               |
| + We provide 24-hour room service. If you needing any items from our room service menu, please call 200.    | + If there is anything we can do to make your stay more enjoyable, please told us.                     |