

ZERO CONDITIONAL

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Use the zero conditional to talk about what happens in general, every time, when a condition exists.

If clause (condition)	comma	main clause (result)
If a condition exists	,	the result is true.
present (simple, continuous or perfect)		present (simple, continuous or perfect)

→ If the food **is** out of date, I **don't eat** it.
 → If I **have drunk**, I **don't drive**.
 → If you **are talking**, I **can't concentrate**.
 → I **can't concentrate** if you **are talking**.
 → **When** you **are talking**, I can't concentrate.

We can normally replace IF with WHEN without changing the meaning.
 NO COMMA when you put the main clause at the beginning.

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FIRST CONDITIONAL

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Use the first conditional to talk about something that might happen in the future if a condition exists.

If clause (condition)	comma	main clause (result)
If a condition exists	,	the result will be true.
present		future / imperative / modal verb

→ If you **study**, you **will pass** the exam.
 → If he **doesn't call**, you **should tell** me immediately.
 → If your room **is** tidy, you **can leave**.
 → If we **win**, we **will celebrate** soon.
 → We **will celebrate** soon if we **win**.

NO COMMA when you put the main clause at the beginning.
 Do NOT use **will** in the IF clause: I'll help you if you need me (NOT if you will need me).

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Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses, using either zero or first conditional.

- If bacteria _____ (be) present, antibiotics _____ (kill) them.
- If a patient _____ (take) antibiotics as prescribed, their infection _____ (clear) up.
- If you _____ (overuse) antibiotics, bacteria _____ (develop) resistance.
- If a person _____ (have) a bacterial infection, they _____ (need) antibiotics.
- If a patient _____ (experience) severe side effects, they _____ (stop) taking antibiotics immediately.
- If a person _____ (not finish) their course of antibiotics, the infection _____ (not go) away completely.
- If a patient _____ (have) a viral infection, antibiotics _____ (not be) effective.
- If a doctor _____ (prescribe) antibiotics, they _____ (explain) the importance of completing the full course.
- If you _____ (miss) a dose of antibiotics, you _____ (risk) the infection returning.
- If a patient _____ (develop) an allergic reaction, they _____ (require) alternative treatment.