SECOND CONTIONAL

We use the second conditional to talk about things in the future or present that are probably not going to be true.
This situation can be:

- Very improbable (1%-5% probability)
- Completely unrealistic (0% probability

EXAMPLE

If I won the lottery, I would travel the world.

FORM

To write a sentence in the second conditional, we use,

- **If + past simple - would/wouldn't + verb.**

Example: If I lived in a big city, I would go out more often.

- **Would + verb - if + past simple.**

Example: I would go out more often if I lived in a big city.

When we use the verb "to be" in the second conditional, the past form is always "were" for the subjects I, he, she and it.

PRACTICE

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WON THE LOTTERY?

Write a short paragraph using the second conditional telling your classmates what would you do.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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SECOND CONDITIONAL

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Structure IF + Past Simple, Present Conditional
(To be: use WERE) (would/wouldn't + Verb (bare form))

Usage **To discuss unreal or unlikely present or future events.**

Examples

- If I were taller, I would play basketball.
- If it were sunny, we would go for a walk.
- If she were here, she would help us.
- If they had more time, they would travel.
- If he were older, he would drive.
- If it were colder, I would wear a jacket.
- If she were a doctor, she would save lives.
- If we were rich, we would buy a mansion.
- If it were Friday, we would go out for dinner.
- If I were you, I would study harder.

Multiple Choice

1. If I had a lot of money, I _____.

a) will buy a flat in New York
b) would buy a flat in New York
c) am buying a flat in New York
d) buy a flat in New York

2. If he lived in a small village, he would _____.

a) feed the sheep and cows
b) go to the shopping mall
c) take the subway
d) stay in a skyscraper

3. If my father didn't have a job, he _____.

a) could live in a big house
b) couldn't watch TV
c) could buy a yatch
d) couldn't pay for the bills

4. If we had bread, sausage, tomato and onion, we would _____.

a) sleep before dinner
b) watch a comedy
c) drink tea or coffee
d) make a sandwich

5. If she went to Australia, she _____.

a) can see the kangaroos
b) will see the kangaroos
c) would see the kangaroos
d) sees the kangaroos

6. I would take him for a walk everyday, if I _____.

a) have a pet dog
b) will have a pet dog
c) had a pet dog
d) am having a pet dog

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7. If I were an animal, I _____.

a) would be a lion
b) will be a lion
c) can be a lion
d) am a lion

8. I wouldn't invite Jenny, if I _____.

a) organize a party
b) organized a party
c) will organize a party
d) would organize a party

9. Mike would cycle to school, if he _____.

a) had some homework
b) had a bicycle
c) had a good book
d) had a gold medal

10. I would play the saxophone, if I _____.

a) were a musician
b) will be a musician
c) can be a musician
d) am a musician

11. If the rain stopped, we would _____.

a) vacuum the carpet
b) make a cake
c) watch a DVD
d) go out for a walk

12. If David were a good student, he _____.

a) doesn't cheat in the exam
b) won't cheat in the exam
c) wouldn't cheat in the exam
d) isn't cheating in the exam

13. Luke wouldn't get such bad marks, if he _____.

a) studied hard enough
b) studies hard enough
c) will study hard enough
d) is studying hard enough

14. If my sister won the lottery, she _____.

a) would be so poor
b) would be so upset
c) would be so tired
d) would be so pleased

LIVEWORKSHEETS

SECOND CONDITIONAL

"if" clause	main clause
If I ***won*** a million dollars,	... I ***would*** put the money in a bank. ... I ***could*** buy an airplane. ... I ***might*** give it all away.

main clause	"if" clause
I ***would*** put the money in a bank I ***could*** buy an airplane I ***might*** give it all away	... if I ***won*** a million dollars.

NOTES:

(1) The second conditional is used to talk about future events that are hypothetical or improbable.

(2) To form negative sentences, add 'not' after 'would', 'could' and 'might'. Eg " ... I might not give it all away."

- ***Complete the sentences below by making Second Conditional statements. Use your imagination!***

1. If I had longer summer holidays, I would travel more.
2. If John did more exercise, _____
3. If Mrs. Smith spoke Chinese, _____
4. If I won a million dollars, _____
5. _____, you could live for 150 years.
6. _____, I might look for a new job.
7. _____, people would be very surprised.
8. _____, he would laugh.
9. If aliens landed on Earth, _____
10. If animals could talk, _____
11. If people lived on the moon, _____
12. If I spent all my money, _____

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