

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

(„if” sentences)



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There are 4 main types of **if** sentences in English, often called **conditional** sentences. These sentences are in two halves (clauses):

- the **if** part (**if clause**)
- the other part where you can use words such as **can, will, may, might, could** and **would** (**main clause**)



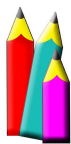
ZERO CONDITIONAL is a structure used for talking about general truths -- things which always happen under certain conditions (note that most zero conditional sentences will mean the same thing if "when" is used instead of "if"). The zero conditional is used to talk about things which are always true -- scientific facts, general truths, and so on.

if clause	main clause
If + Present Simple	Present Simple
<i>If you heat the water to 100 degrees,</i>	<i>it boils.</i>



1st CONDITIONAL is a structure used for talking about possibilities in the present or in the future. The first conditional is used to talk about things which are possible in the present or the future -- things which *may happen*.

if clause	main clause
If + Present Simple	Future Simple, can, may
<i>If you study hard,</i>	<i>you will pass the test.</i>



2nd CONDITIONAL is a structure used for talking about *unreal situations* in the present or in the future. The second conditional is used to talk about things which are unreal (not true or not possible) in the present or the future -- things which *don't or won't happen*.

if clause	main clause
If + Past Simple	would, could, might
<i>If I had a million dollars,</i>	<i>I would buy a big house.</i>



3rd CONDITIONAL is a structure used for talking about *unreal situations* in the *past*. The third conditional is used to talk about things which DID NOT HAPPEN in the past. If your native language does not have a similar construction, you may find this a little strange, but it can be very useful. It is often used to express criticism or regret.

if clause	main clause
If + Past Perfect	would/could/might have + Past Participle
<i>If I had studied harder,</i>	<i>I would have passed the exam.</i>

I failed the exam, because I didn't study hard enough



If the "if" clause comes first, a comma is usually used. If the "if" clause comes second, there is no need for a comma –

- Water boils if you heat it to 100 degrees.*
- You will pass the test if you study hard.*
- I would buy a big house if I had a million dollars.*
- I would have passed the exam if I had studied harder.*



Make Zero Conditional sentences, use cues.

Jane / eat / too much chocolate / she / get / sick

You / not / eat / you / die

You / heat / ice / it / melts



Make 1st Conditional sentences, put the verbs in brackets in correct form.

If you _____ (not study), you _____ (fail) the test.

I _____ (lend) you my umbrella if you _____ (need) it.

If I _____ (be late), I _____ (call) you.

3



Write 2nd Conditional sentences, put the verbs in brackets in correct form.

If you _____ (leave) your job, you _____ (travel) around the world.

If you _____ (be) nicer to him, he _____ (lend) you the money

It _____ (be) nice if the rain _____ (stop)!

3



Write 3rd Conditional sentences, put the verbs in brackets in correct order.

He crashed his car, because he fell asleep while driving.

If he _____ (fall) asleep while driving, he _____ (crash) his car.

I lost my job because I was late for work.

I _____ (lose) my job if I _____ (be) late for work.

We couldn't go to the concert, because we didn't have enough money.

If we _____ (have) enough money, we _____ (go) to the concert.

3



Put the verb in brackets in correct form.

If I _____ (be) you, I wouldn't risk.

If they had waited another month, they could probably _____ (get) a better price for their house.

It's quite simple really. When it's cold, water _____ (freeze).

If he decides to accept that job, he _____ (regret) it for the rest of his life.

If he hadn't been driving so fast, he _____ (hit) the motorcyclist.

If he _____ (be) more careful, he would have spotted the mistake.

If she goes on passing her exams, _____ (be) qualified to practise as a lawyer.

If I pay you twice as much, will you _____ (able) to finish by Tuesday?

If only I'd invested in that company, I _____ (become) a millionaire by now.

3

9



TOTAL

21

Make Zero Conditional sentences, use cues.

Jane / eat / too much chocolate / she / get / sick

 If Jane eats too much chocolate, she gets sick

You / not / eat / you / die

 If you don't eat, you die.

You / heat / ice / it / melts

 If you heat ice, it melts. **Make 1st Conditional sentences, put the verbs in brackets in correct form.**If you *don't study* (not study), you *will fail* (fail) the test.I *will lend* (lend) you my umbrella if you *need* (need) it.If I *am late* (be late), I *will call* (call) you.**Write 2nd Conditional sentences, put the verbs in brackets in correct form.**If you *left* (leave) your job, you *could travel* (travel) around the world.If you *were* (be) nicer to him, he *might lend* (lend) you the moneyIt *would be* (be) nice if the rain *stopped* (stop)!**Write 3rd Conditional sentences, put the verbs in brackets in correct order.**

He crashed his car, because he fell asleep while driving.

If he *hadn't fallen* (fall) asleep while driving, he *wouldn't have crashed* (crash) his car.

I lost my job because I was late for work.

I *wouldn't have lost* (lose) my job if I *hadn't been* (be) late for work.

We couldn't go to the concert, because we didn't have enough money.

If we *had had* (have) enough money, we *could have gone* (go) to the concert.

Put the verb in brackets in correct form.

If I *were* you, I wouldn't risk it.If they had waited another month, they could probably *have got* a better price for their houseIt's quite simple really. When it's cold, water *freezes*.If he decides to accept that job, he *will regret* it for the rest of his life.If he hadn't been driving so fast, he *wouldn't have hit* the motorcyclist.*If he had been* more careful, he would have spotted the mistake.If she goes on passing her exams, *she'll be* qualified to practise as a lawyer.If I pay you twice as much, will you *be able* to finish by Tuesday?If only I'd invested in that company, I *would have become* a millionaire by now.