

	Condition	Result
Zero	If + Present Simple If you take the street on the right	Present Simple It's quicker
First	If + Present Simple If I finish work early	Will/won't + V1 I'll go to the shop
Second	If + Past Simple If I wasn't sick	Would/wouldn't + V1 I'd go to the party
Third	If + Past Perfect If I'd left earlier	Would/wouldn't have + V3 I wouldn't have been late
Mixed	If + Past Perfect If I'd left earlier	Would/wouldn't + V1 I wouldn't be stuck in traffic now

Conditional Sentences

EWL

Zero conditional

If clause

Main clause

If + Present simple

Present simple

Example- If you heat ice, it melts. / It melts if you heat ice.

The zero conditional is used to make statements about the real world, and often refers to general truths.

1st conditional

If clause

Main clause

If + Present simple

will + infinitive (v1)

Example-If I have enough money, I will buy a new car./ I will buy a new car if I have enough money

It is possible and also very likely that the condition will be fulfilled.

2nd conditional

If clause

Main clause

If + Past simple

would+ infinitive (v1)

Example: If I found her address, I would send her a letter./ I would send her a letter if I found her address

It is possible but very unlikely, that the condition will be fulfilled.

3rd conditional

If clause

Main clause

If + Past perfect

would have+ Past participle (v3)

Example: If I had won the lottery, I would have bought a big house.

It is impossible that the condition will be fulfilled because it refers to the past.

Conditional sentences, type III, statements

- 1 If the weather **had been** nice, they **would have played** football.
- 2 If we **had gone** to a good restaurant, we **would have had** a better dinner.
- 3 If John **had learned** more words, he **would have written** a good report.
- 4 If the boys **had taken** the bus to school, they **would have arrived** on time.
- 5 If the teacher **had explained** the homework, I **would have done** it.
- 6 If they **had waited** for another 10 minutes, they **would have seen** the pop star.
- 7 If the police **had come** earlier, they **would have arrested** the burglar.
- 8 If you **had bought** fresh green vegetable, your salad **would have tasted** better.
- 9 If Alex **had asked** me, I **would have emailed** the documents.
- 10 If he **had spoken** more slowly, Peggy **would have understood** him.

Conditionals - wishes

	If-clause	Main clause	Use
Type 0 general truth	If / When + present simple <i>If you heat metal, it melts.</i>	present simple	something which is always true, laws of nature
Type 1 real present	If + any present form (present simple, present continuous, present perfect or present perfect continuous)	future / imperative / can / may / might / must / could / should + bare infinitive	real – likely to happen in the present or future <i>If he leaves early, he'll be on time for the meeting. If you're tired, go to bed. If you have finished your work, we can go for a walk.</i>
Type 2 unreal present	If + past simple or past continuous	would / could / might + bare infinitive	imaginary situation contrary to facts in the present; also used to give advice <i>If I saw a ghost, I would run away. (but I haven't seen a ghost – untrue in the present) If I were you, I wouldn't go out that late. (advice)</i>
Type 3 unreal past	If + past perfect or past perfect continuous	would / could / might + have + past participle	imaginary situation in the past; also used to express regrets and criticism <i>If I had closed the window, we wouldn't have been robbed. (but I didn't close the window – untrue in the past) If he hadn't been behaving so badly, well, the teacher wouldn't have punished him. (criticism)</i>

- When the **if-clause** is before the main clause, we separate the two clauses with a comma.
*If you **come** early, we **can go** for a walk. **BUT** We **can go** for a walk **if** you **come** early.*
- We do not normally use **will**, **would** or **should** in an **if-clause**.
*If you **hurry**, you **will catch** the train. (NOT: ~~if you will hurry, you will ...~~)*
- However, we can use **will** or **would** after **if** to make a polite request or express insistence or uncertainty. We can use **should** after **if** to talk about something which is possible but not very likely to happen.
*If you **will fill in** the form, I'll process your application. (Will you please fill in ... – polite request)
If you **will not stop** shouting, you will have to leave. (If you insist on shouting ... – insistence)
I don't know if I **will pass** my driving test. (uncertainty)
If I **should see** her, I'll ask her. (I don't think it's very likely I will see her)*

Conditional - Type 1

Type 1	IF CLAUSE	MAIN CLAUSE	Use
real present	If / Unless + Present Simple	Future Imperative Can / must / + bare infinitive	real or very probable situation in the present or future

RULE

We put comma after the if-clause when it comes first.

1. If he **comes** late, we'll **miss** the bus.
2. If you **phone** me, I'll **pick** you up.
3. If you **see** her, **can** you give her a message?
4. It **will be** more expensive if we **go** by plane.

Unless = If not

1. You **won't understand** unless you **listen** carefully.
2. I'll **come** with you to the dentist's unless you **want** to go alone.
3. They **won't be able** to buy a house unless they **save** money.

MIXED CONDITIONAL PATTERNS

PAST

PRESENT

- If I **had** **won** the lottery, I **would** **be** rich.
BUT I DIDN'T WIN THE LOTTERY IN THE PAST AND I AM NOT RICH NOW.
- If I **had taken** French in high school, I **would have** more job opportunities.
BUT I DIDN'T TAKE FRENCH IN HIGH SCHOOL AND I DON'T HAVE MANY JOB OPPORTUNITIES.
- If she **had been born** in the United States, she **wouldn't need** a visa to work here.
BUT SHE WASN'T BORN IN THE UNITED STATES AND SHE DOES NEED A VISA NOW TO WORK HERE.

PAST

FUTURE

- If she **had signed** up for the ski trip last week, she **would be joining** us tomorrow.
BUT SHE DIDN'T SIGN UP FOR THE SKI TRIP LAST WEEK AND SHE ISN'T GOING TO JOIN US TOMORROW.
- If Mark **had gotten** the job instead of Joe, he **would be moving** to Shanghai.
BUT MARK DIDN'T GET THE JOB AND MARK IS NOT GOING TO MOVE TO SHANGHAI.
- If Darren **hadn't wasted** his Christmas bonus gambling in Las Vegas, he **would go** to Mexico with us next month.
BUT DARREN WASTED HIS CHRISTMAS BONUS GAMBLING IN LAS VEGAS AND HE WON'T GO TO MEXICO WITH US NEXT MONTH.

PRESENT

PAST

- If I **were** rich, I **would have bought** that Ferrari we saw yesterday.
BUT I AM NOT CURRENTLY RICH AND THAT IS WHY I DIDN'T BUY THE FERRARI YESTERDAY.
- If Sam **spoke** Russian, he **would have translated** the letter for you.
BUT SAM DOESN'T SPEAK RUSSIAN AND THAT IS WHY HE DIDN'T TRANSLATE THE LETTER.

MIXED CONDITIONALS

- We can form **mixed conditionals**, if the context permits it, by combining an if-clause from one type with a main clause from another.
- The most common types are:

Type 2 - Type 3

If you **WERE** more sensible, you **WOULDN'T HAVE SPOKEN** to your parents like that.

Type 3 - Type 2

If he **HADN'T STOLEN** all that money, he **WOULDN'T BE** in prison **now**.