

First, Second & Third Conditionals — Lesson 2

B2 Grammar Lesson — Student Worksheet

Grammar Focus

1st — Real Future

If + present simple, will + infinitive

If we leave now, we'll catch the train.

2nd — Unreal Present/Future

If + past simple, would + infinitive

If I spoke five languages, I would interpret.

3rd — Unreal Past

If + past perfect, would have + p.p.

If I had left earlier, I wouldn't have missed it.

Exercise 1 — Error Identification

Each sentence contains one error, or may be correct. Underline the error and write why it's wrong (or write 'no error').

1. If she will finish the report, she'll send it tonight.

Correction / reason: _____

2. If he trained every day, he will run a marathon.

Correction / reason: _____

3. If we had checked the forecast, we wouldn't have got soaked.

Correction / reason: _____

4. If I own a car, I would drive to work.

Correction / reason: _____

5. If you had reminded me about the deadline, I would send the invoice.

Correction / reason: _____

6. If the shop is open, I'll buy some bread on the way home.

Correction / reason: _____

Exercise 2 — Gap Fill

Put the verb in brackets into the correct conditional form.

1. If it ____ (snow) this weekend, we'll go skiing.

2. If I ____ (be) the manager, I would change the schedule.

3. He would have passed the interview if he ____ (prepare) properly.

4. If she ____ (not / leave) now, she'll be late for the meeting.

5. If they ____ (advertise) the job better, they would find more candidates.

6. We wouldn't have argued if you ____ (listen) to me.

7. If you mix blue and yellow, it ____ (make) green.

8. If I ____ (not / work) so much overtime, I would see my friends more.

Exercise 3 — Sentence Transformation

Rewrite each sentence using the conditional type shown, keeping the same meaning.

1. I don't speak German, so I can't apply for that job in Berlin. *(rewrite as a 2nd conditional)*

2. He didn't back up his files, so he lost all his work. *(rewrite as a 3rd conditional)*

3. Maybe the train will be delayed — text me if that happens. *(rewrite as a 1st conditional)*

4. I don't have a driving licence, so I can't rent a car. *(rewrite as a 2nd conditional)*

5. She didn't set an alarm, so she overslept and missed the interview. *(rewrite as a 3rd conditional)*

6. Perhaps prices will drop next month — we might buy the sofa then. *(rewrite as a 1st conditional)*

Exercise 4 — Build the Sentence

Put the words below into the correct order to make a complete conditional sentence.

1. water / expands. / it / freeze / If / , / you

2. fewer / I / hours / if / earned / work / more. / would / I

3. he / I / would / If / him. / , / have / had / forgiven / apologised

4. printer / we / use / one / If / the / upstairs. / will / the / , / breaks

5. had / more / I / If / speak / would / I / , / confidence / up.

6. if / set / have / been / sooner. / they / They / late / had / wouldn't / off

Exercise 5 — Which Conditional Fits?

Read each situation and write the letter of the response that uses the most appropriate conditional. (Options are on the accompanying HTML lesson; here, write your own best sentence.)

1. A colleague is deciding whether to submit a proposal — it's a realistic, open possibility this week.

2. You're daydreaming about a completely different, imaginary career you don't actually have.

3. A friend failed their driving test last month — it's over and can't be changed now.

4. You're giving a colleague general, realistic advice about a client call later today.

5. You're imagining what you'd do with a skill you don't have and are unlikely to develop.

6. Looking back, you regret not applying for a scholarship when you were younger.

Exercise 6 — Correct the Mistake

Each sentence has one grammar mistake. Write out the full corrected sentence.

1. If I will get the promotion, I'll take you all out for dinner.

2. If she was more organised, she would finished projects on time.

3. If they would have checked the reviews, they would have chosen a different hotel.

4. If you don't back up your laptop, you will losing your files.

5. If I would be in charge, I would change the opening hours.

6. If we had left earlier, we would arrive on time.

Exercise 7 — Your Own Sentences

Respond to each situation with a full conditional sentence of the type requested.

1. Write a 1st conditional sentence about what you'll do if you finish work early today.

2. Write a 2nd conditional sentence about a skill you'd love to have but don't.

3. Write a 3rd conditional sentence about a decision you regret from your past.

4. Write a 1st conditional sentence giving a friend advice about a job interview.

5. Write a 2nd conditional sentence imagining what you would do if you had an extra day off every week.

6. Write a 3rd conditional sentence about how a past event in your life could have gone differently.

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B2 Grammar Lesson — Answer Key

Exercise 1 — Error Identification

1. If she will finish the report, she'll send it tonight.

Error: "If she will finish the report" — Wrong verb form in the if-clause

1st conditional if-clauses use present simple, not 'will': 'If she finishes the report...'

2. If he trained every day, he will run a marathon.

Error: "he will run a marathon" — Wrong verb form in the main clause

After a past-simple if-clause, the main clause needs 'would': 'he would run'.

3. If we had checked the forecast, we wouldn't have got soaked.

Error: No error — No error — sentence is correct

Correctly formed 3rd conditional (past perfect + would have + past participle).

4. If I own a car, I would drive to work.

Error: "If I own a car" — Wrong verb form in the if-clause

'Would' signals 2nd conditional, so the if-clause needs past simple: 'If I owned a car...'

5. If you had reminded me about the deadline, I would send the invoice.

Error: "I would send the invoice" — Wrong verb form in the main clause

A past-perfect if-clause needs 'would have + past participle': 'I would have sent'.

6. If the shop is open, I'll buy some bread on the way home.

Error: No error — No error — sentence is correct

Correctly formed 1st conditional (present simple + will).

Exercise 2 — Gap Fill

1. If it **snows** (snow) this weekend, we'll go skiing.
2. If I **were** (be) the manager, I would change the schedule.
3. He would have passed the interview if he **had prepared** (prepare) properly.
4. If she **doesn't leave** (not / leave) now, she'll be late for the meeting.
5. If they **advertised** (advertise) the job better, they would find more candidates.
6. We wouldn't have argued if you **had listened** (listen) to me.
7. If you mix blue and yellow, it **makes** (make) green.

8. If I **didn't work** (not / work) so much overtime, I would see my friends more.

Exercise 3 — Sentence Transformation

1. I don't speak German, so I can't apply for that job in Berlin. *(2nd conditional)*

If I spoke German, I would apply for that job in Berlin.

2. He didn't back up his files, so he lost all his work. *(3rd conditional)*

If he had backed up his files, he wouldn't have lost all his work.

3. Maybe the train will be delayed — text me if that happens. *(1st conditional)*

If the train is delayed, text me.

4. I don't have a driving licence, so I can't rent a car. *(2nd conditional)*

If I had a driving licence, I would rent a car.

5. She didn't set an alarm, so she overslept and missed the interview. *(3rd conditional)*

If she had set an alarm, she wouldn't have overslept and missed the interview.

6. Perhaps prices will drop next month — we might buy the sofa then. *(1st conditional)*

If prices drop next month, we'll buy the sofa then.

Exercise 4 — Build the Sentence

1. If you freeze water, it expands.
2. I would work fewer hours if I earned more.
3. If he had apologised, I would have forgiven him.
4. If the printer breaks, we will use the one upstairs.
5. If I had more confidence, I would speak up.
6. They wouldn't have been late if they had set off sooner.

Exercise 5 — Which Conditional Fits?

1. A colleague is deciding whether to submit a proposal — it's a realistic, open possibility this week.

If she submits the proposal, the board will review it on Friday.

2. You're daydreaming about a completely different, imaginary career you don't actually have.

If I were a pilot, I would fly to a new country every week.

3. A friend failed their driving test last month — it's over and can't be changed now.

If he had practised more, he wouldn't have failed the test.

4. You're giving a colleague general, realistic advice about a client call later today.

If the client calls, tell them the order will ship tomorrow.

5. You're imagining what you'd do with a skill you don't have and are unlikely to develop.

If I could paint, I would sell my work at the local market.

6. Looking back, you regret not applying for a scholarship when you were younger.

If I had applied for the scholarship, my career would have been very different.

Exercise 6 — Correct the Mistake

1. If I will get the promotion, I'll take you all out for dinner.

If I get the promotion, I'll take you all out for dinner.

2. If she was more organised, she would finished projects on time.

If she were more organised, she would finish projects on time.

3. If they would have checked the reviews, they would have chosen a different hotel.

If they had checked the reviews, they would have chosen a different hotel.

4. If you don't back up your laptop, you will losing your files.

If you don't back up your laptop, you will lose your files.

5. If I would be in charge, I would change the opening hours.

If I were in charge, I would change the opening hours.

6. If we had left earlier, we would arrive on time.

If we had left earlier, we would have arrived on time.

Exercise 7 — Model Answers

Accept any grammatically correct sentence of the requested conditional type that logically fits the prompt. Models below.

1. Write a 1st conditional sentence about what you'll do if you finish work early today.

If I finish work early today, I'll go to the gym.

2. Write a 2nd conditional sentence about a skill you'd love to have but don't.

If I could play the piano, I would perform at family gatherings.

3. Write a 3rd conditional sentence about a decision you regret from your past.

If I had taken that job offer, I would have moved abroad years ago.

4. Write a 1st conditional sentence giving a friend advice about a job interview.

If you arrive fifteen minutes early, you'll make a good first impression.

5. Write a 2nd conditional sentence imagining what you would do if you had an extra day off every week.

If I had an extra day off every week, I would volunteer at the animal shelter.

6. Write a 3rd conditional sentence about how a past event in your life could have gone differently.

If I had listened to my teacher's advice, I would have chosen a different subject.