

First, Second & Third Conditionals

B2 Grammar Lesson — Student Worksheet

Grammar Focus

1st — Real Future

If + present simple, will + infinitive

If it rains, we'll cancel the picnic.

2nd — Unreal Present/Future

If + past simple, would + infinitive

If I won the lottery, I would travel.

3rd — Unreal Past

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

If I had studied, I would have passed.

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 I will see him, I'll tell him the news.

Correction / reason: _____

2. If she studied harder, she will pass the exam.

Correction / reason: _____

3. If they had left earlier, they would have caught the train.

Correction / reason: _____

4. If I have more time, I would learn Japanese.

Correction / reason: _____

5. If you had told me about the meeting, I would come.

Correction / reason: _____

6. If the weather is nice tomorrow, we'll have a barbecue.

Correction / reason: _____

Exercise 2 — Gap Fill

Put the verb in brackets into the correct conditional form.

1. If it ____ (rain) tomorrow, we'll stay inside.

2. If I ____ (be) you, I would apologise.

3. She would have called you if she ____ (have) your number.

4. If they ____ (not / hurry), they will miss the flight.

5. If he ____ (save) more money, he would buy a house.

6. We wouldn't have got lost if you ____ (bring) the map.

7. If you heat ice, it ____ (melt).

8. If I ____ (not / be) so busy, I would help you.

Exercise 3 — Sentence Transformation

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

1. I don't know his email, so I can't send him the file. (rewrite as a 2nd conditional)

2. She didn't book early, so she paid full price. (rewrite as a 3rd conditional)

3. Maybe it will be sunny at the weekend — we might go hiking. (rewrite as a 1st conditional)

4. I'm not rich, so I don't own a yacht. (rewrite as a 2nd conditional)

5. He didn't wear a helmet, so he was badly hurt in the accident. (rewrite as a 3rd conditional)

6. Perhaps you'll finish early — call me if that happens. (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 / boils. / it / heat / If / , / you

2. more / had / if / I / the / travel / money. / would / I

3. she / I / would / If / her. / , / have / had / helped / asked

4. doesn't / we / go / a / If / for / walk. / will / it / , / rain

5. were / taller / I / If / basketball. / play / would / I / ,

6. bus / had / have / missed / earlier. / if / We / the / we / wouldn't / left

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. Your friend is deciding whether to apply for a promotion — it's a realistic, open possibility.

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

3. A colleague missed an important deadline last month — it's over and can't be changed now.

4. You're giving a friend general, realistic advice about tonight's weather forecast.

5. You're imagining what you'd do with an amount of money you don't have and are unlikely to get.

6. Looking back, you regret not learning to drive as a teenager.

Exercise 6 — Correct the Mistake

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

1. If I will finish work early, I'll call you.

2. If he was taller, he would played basketball professionally.

3. If they would have known about the traffic, they would have left earlier.

4. If you don't hurry, you will missing the bus.

5. If I would be you, I would say sorry.

6. If we had booked earlier, we would save a lot of money.

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 the weather is good this weekend.

2. Write a 2nd conditional sentence about a job 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 an upcoming exam.

5. Write a 2nd conditional sentence imagining what you would do if you could speak every language.

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

First, Second & Third Conditionals

B2 Grammar Lesson — Answer Key

Exercise 1 — Error Identification

1. If I will see him, I'll tell him the news.

Error: "If I will see him" — Wrong verb form in the if-clause

1st conditional if-clauses use present simple, not 'will': 'If I see him...'

2. If she studied harder, she will pass the exam.

Error: "she will pass the exam" — Wrong verb form in the main clause

After a past-simple if-clause, the main clause needs 'would': 'she would pass'.

3. If they had left earlier, they would have caught the train.

Error: No error — No error — sentence is correct

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

4. If I have more time, I would learn Japanese.

Error: "If I have more time" — Wrong verb form in the if-clause

'Would' signals 2nd conditional, so the if-clause needs past simple: 'If I had more time...'

5. If you had told me about the meeting, I would come.

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

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

6. If the weather is nice tomorrow, we'll have a barbecue.

Error: No error — No error — sentence is correct

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

Exercise 2 — Gap Fill

1. If it **rains** (rain) tomorrow, we'll stay inside.
2. If I **were** (be) you, I would apologise.
3. She would have called you if she **had had** (have) your number.
4. If they **don't hurry** (not / hurry), they will miss the flight.
5. If he **saved** (save) more money, he would buy a house.
6. We wouldn't have got lost if you **had brought** (bring) the map.
7. If you heat ice, it **melts** (melt).

8. If I **weren't** (not / be) so busy, I would help you.

Exercise 3 — Sentence Transformation

1. I don't know his email, so I can't send him the file. *(2nd conditional)*

If I knew his email, I would send him the file.

2. She didn't book early, so she paid full price. *(3rd conditional)*

If she had booked early, she wouldn't have paid full price.

3. Maybe it will be sunny at the weekend — we might go hiking. *(1st conditional)*

If it's sunny at the weekend, we'll go hiking.

4. I'm not rich, so I don't own a yacht. *(2nd conditional)*

If I were rich, I would own a yacht.

5. He didn't wear a helmet, so he was badly hurt in the accident. *(3rd conditional)*

If he had worn a helmet, he wouldn't have been badly hurt.

6. Perhaps you'll finish early — call me if that happens. *(1st conditional)*

If you finish early, call me.

Exercise 4 — Build the Sentence

1. If you heat water, it boils.

2. I would travel more if I had the money.

3. If she had asked, I would have helped her.

4. If it doesn't rain, we will go for a walk.

5. If I were taller, I would play basketball.

6. We wouldn't have missed the bus if we had left earlier.

Exercise 5 — Which Conditional Fits?

1. Your friend is deciding whether to apply for a promotion — it's a realistic, open possibility.

If you apply for the promotion, you'll probably get it.

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

If I lived on a tropical island, I would swim every day.

3. A colleague missed an important deadline last month — it's over and can't be changed now.

If she had planned better, she wouldn't have missed the deadline.

4. You're giving a friend general, realistic advice about tonight's weather forecast.

If it snows tonight, the roads will be dangerous.

5. You're imagining what you'd do with an amount of money you don't have and are unlikely to get.

If I had a million euros, I would retire early.

6. Looking back, you regret not learning to drive as a teenager.

If I had learned to drive earlier, my life would have been easier.

Exercise 6 — Correct the Mistake

1. If I will finish work early, I'll call you.

If I finish work early, I'll call you.

2. If he was taller, he would played basketball professionally.

If he were taller, he would play basketball professionally.

3. If they would have known about the traffic, they would have left earlier.

If they had known about the traffic, they would have left earlier.

4. If you don't hurry, you will missing the bus.

If you don't hurry, you will miss the bus.

5. If I would be you, I would say sorry.

If I were you, I would say sorry.

6. If we had booked earlier, we would save a lot of money.

If we had booked earlier, we would have saved a lot of money.

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 the weather is good this weekend.

If the weather is good this weekend, I'll go for a long walk.

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

If I had my dream job, I would work with animals every day.

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

If I had saved money earlier, I would have bought a house by now.

4. Write a 1st conditional sentence giving a friend advice about an upcoming exam.

If you revise a little every day, you'll feel much more confident.

5. Write a 2nd conditional sentence imagining what you would do if you could speak every language.

If I could speak every language, I would travel the world without a translator.

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

If the government had acted sooner, the crisis wouldn't have been so severe.