

Mixed Conditionals — Lesson 3

C1 Grammar Lesson — Student Worksheet

Grammar Focus

Type A — Past cause → Present result

If + past perfect , would (not) + infinitive

If I hadn't lost my keys, I would be inside the house now.

Type B — General truth → Past result

If + past simple , would (not) have + p.p.

If she weren't so honest, she wouldn't have admitted the mistake yesterday.

How to decide: is the condition about the past and the result about now (Type A)? Or is the condition a general truth and the result about a specific past moment (Type B)? Time markers like 'now' and 'yesterday' are strong clues.

Exercise 1 — Which Mix?

Read each situation and write your own correctly mixed conditional sentence.

1. He didn't charge his phone last night, so it's dead now.

2. She's very curious by nature, which is why she asked so many questions during yesterday's interview.

3. They didn't sign the contract, so they aren't working with that supplier now.

4. He's very meticulous by nature, which is why he double-checked every figure in yesterday's report.

5. She didn't finish her degree, so she can't apply for the senior role now.

6. He's not very tactful by nature, which is why he upset his teammate during yesterday's review.

Exercise 2 — 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 we had booked the venue sooner, we save a lot of money.

Correction / reason: _____

2. If he weren't so cautious, he wouldn't have hesitated before signing.

Correction / reason: _____

3. If she had taken the earlier train, she will be here by now.

Correction / reason: _____

4. If I weren't so trusting, I hadn't lent him the money.

Correction / reason: _____

5. If they had listened to the warning, they wouldn't be in this mess now.

Correction / reason: _____

6. If I am more confident, I would have applied for the position last year.

Correction / reason: _____

Exercise 3 — Gap Fill

Put the verb in brackets into the correct mixed conditional form.

1. If she ____ (finish) the course last year, she would have a certificate now.
2. If he weren't so nervous, he ____ (perform) better in yesterday's audition.
3. If we ____ (repair) the roof last winter, we wouldn't have this leak now.
4. If I weren't so squeamish, I ____ (watch) the whole film last night.
5. If you ____ (not / cancel) the meeting, we would have the report by now.
6. If she weren't so reserved, she ____ (introduce) herself at the conference yesterday.
7. If they ____ (test) the product earlier, they wouldn't be recalling it now.
8. If he weren't so proud, he ____ (ask) for help during yesterday's crisis.

Exercise 4 — Combine the Facts

Combine each pair of facts into one mixed conditional sentence.

1. She didn't keep the receipt, so she can't return the jacket now. (Type A (past → present))

2. He's very direct by nature — that's why he criticised the design in front of the whole team yesterday. (Type B (general → past))

3. I didn't back up my files, so I can't recover the document now. (Type A (past → present))

4. She's not very diplomatic — that's why she offended the client during the call yesterday. (Type B (general → past))

5. They didn't fix the leak, so they can't use the basement now. (Type A (past → present))

6. He's not very patient — that's why he lost his temper with a customer yesterday. (Type B (general → past))

Exercise 5 — Build the Sentence

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

1. would / told / you. / have / I / known / If / , / I / had

2. forgotten / speech. / so / nervous / wouldn't / she / have / weren't / , / her / she / If

3. we / would / right / If / we / now. / more / , / had / be / travelling / saved

4. flight / the / have / yesterday. / , / missed / If / were / wouldn't / he / he / organised / more

5. hadn't / closed / there / shopping / now. / they / , / we / If / would / shop / the / be

6. I / , / weren't / so / have / the / project. / If / tired / would / I / finished

Exercise 6 — Correct the Mistake

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

1. If I had known, I tell you.

2. If she wasn't so nervous, she hadn't forgotten her speech.

3. If we had saved more, we wouldn't travelling right now.

4. If he was more organised, he didn't miss the flight yesterday.

5. If they hadn't closed the shop, we are shopping there now.

6. If I wasn't so tired, I hadn't finished the project.

Exercise 7 — Your Own Sentences

Respond to each prompt with your own mixed conditional sentence.

1. Write a mixed conditional (past cause → present result) about a course or qualification you never finished.

2. Write a mixed conditional (present trait → past result) about a personality trait and a decision it led to.

3. Write a mixed conditional (past cause → present result) about a health habit you never started.

4. Write a mixed conditional (present trait → past result) about a habit and something it caused recently.

5. Write a mixed conditional (past cause → present result) about a relationship or friendship affected by a past choice.

6. Write a mixed conditional (present trait → past result) about a general truth about yourself and a specific past event it explains.

Mixed Conditionals — Lesson 3

C1 Grammar Lesson — Answer Key

Exercise 1 — Which Mix? (model answers)

1. He didn't charge his phone last night, so it's dead now.

If he had charged his phone, it wouldn't be dead now.

2. She's very curious by nature, which is why she asked so many questions during yesterday's interview.

If she weren't so curious, she wouldn't have asked so many questions during yesterday's interview.

3. They didn't sign the contract, so they aren't working with that supplier now.

If they had signed the contract, they would be working with that supplier now.

4. He's very meticulous by nature, which is why he double-checked every figure in yesterday's report.

If he weren't so meticulous, he wouldn't have double-checked every figure in yesterday's report.

5. She didn't finish her degree, so she can't apply for the senior role now.

If she had finished her degree, she would be able to apply for the senior role now.

6. He's not very tactful by nature, which is why he upset his teammate during yesterday's review.

If he were more tactful, he wouldn't have upset his teammate during yesterday's review.

Exercise 2 — Error Identification

1. If we had booked the venue sooner, we save a lot of money.

Error: "we save a lot of money" — Wrong verb form in the main clause

A past-perfect if-clause needs 'would' in the main clause for a present result: 'we would save a lot of money.'

2. If he weren't so cautious, he wouldn't have hesitated before signing.

Error: No error — No error — correctly formed

Correctly formed Type B mixed conditional — general trait (past simple) explaining a past result (would have + past participle).

3. If she had taken the earlier train, she will be here by now.

Error: "she will be here by now" — Wrong verb form in the main clause

A past-perfect if-clause needs 'would', not 'will': 'she would be here by now.'

4. If I weren't so trusting, I hadn't lent him the money.

Error: "I hadn't lent him the money" — Wrong verb form in the main clause

A general-trait if-clause (past simple) needs 'wouldn't have + past participle': 'I wouldn't have lent him the money.'

5. If they had listened to the warning, they wouldn't be in this mess now.

Error: No error — No error — correctly formed

Correctly formed Type A mixed conditional — past cause (past perfect) with a present result (would + infinitive).

6. If I am more confident, I would have applied for the position last year.

Error: "If I am more confident" — Wrong verb form in the if-clause

'Would have + past participle' in the main clause needs a past-simple if-clause for a general trait: 'If I were more confident...'

Exercise 3 — Gap Fill

1. If she **had finished** (finish) the course last year, she would have a certificate now.
2. If he weren't so nervous, he **would have performed** (perform) better in yesterday's audition.
3. If we **had repaired** (repair) the roof last winter, we wouldn't have this leak now.
4. If I weren't so squeamish, I **would have watched** (watch) the whole film last night.
5. If you **hadn't cancelled** (not / cancel) the meeting, we would have the report by now.
6. If she weren't so reserved, she **would have introduced** (introduce) herself at the conference yesterday.
7. If they **had tested** (test) the product earlier, they wouldn't be recalling it now.
8. If he weren't so proud, he **would have asked** (ask) for help during yesterday's crisis.

Exercise 4 — Combine the Facts

1. She didn't keep the receipt, so she can't return the jacket now. *(Type A (past → present))*

If she had kept the receipt, she would be able to return the jacket now.

2. He's very direct by nature — that's why he criticised the design in front of the whole team yesterday. *(Type B (general → past))*

If he weren't so direct, he wouldn't have criticised the design in front of the whole team yesterday.

3. I didn't back up my files, so I can't recover the document now. *(Type A (past → present))*

If I had backed up my files, I would be able to recover the document now.

4. She's not very diplomatic — that's why she offended the client during the call yesterday. *(Type B (general → past))*

If she were more diplomatic, she wouldn't have offended the client during the call yesterday.

5. They didn't fix the leak, so they can't use the basement now. *(Type A (past → present))*

If they had fixed the leak, they would be able to use the basement now.

6. He's not very patient — that's why he lost his temper with a customer yesterday. (Type B (general → past))

If he were more patient, he wouldn't have lost his temper with a customer yesterday.

Exercise 5 — Build the Sentence

1. If I had known, I would have told you.
2. If she weren't so nervous, she wouldn't have forgotten her speech.
3. If we had saved more, we would be travelling right now.
4. If he were more organised, he wouldn't have missed the flight yesterday.
5. If they hadn't closed the shop, we would be shopping there now.
6. If I weren't so tired, I would have finished the project.

Exercise 6 — Correct the Mistake

1. If I had known, I tell you.

If I had known, I would have told you.

2. If she wasn't so nervous, she hadn't forgotten her speech.

If she weren't so nervous, she wouldn't have forgotten her speech.

3. If we had saved more, we wouldn't travelling right now.

If we had saved more, we would be travelling right now.

4. If he was more organised, he didn't miss the flight yesterday.

If he were more organised, he wouldn't have missed the flight yesterday.

5. If they hadn't closed the shop, we are shopping there now.

If they hadn't closed the shop, we would be shopping there now.

6. If I wasn't so tired, I hadn't finished the project.

If I weren't so tired, I would have finished the project.

Exercise 7 — Model Answers

Accept any grammatically correct sentence of the requested mixed type that logically fits the prompt.

1. Write a mixed conditional (past cause → present result) about a course or qualification you never finished.

If I had finished that certification, I would have more career options now.

2. Write a mixed conditional (present trait → past result) about a personality trait and a decision it led to.

If I weren't so cautious, I wouldn't have turned down that opportunity last year.

3. Write a mixed conditional (past cause → present result) about a health habit you never started.

If I had started exercising years ago, I would be much fitter now.

4. Write a mixed conditional (present trait → past result) about a habit and something it caused recently.

If I weren't such a perfectionist, I wouldn't have redone the report three times last week.

5. Write a mixed conditional (past cause → present result) about a relationship or friendship affected by a past choice.

If I had kept in touch with her, we would still be close now.

6. Write a mixed conditional (present trait → past result) about a general truth about yourself and a specific past event it explains.

If I weren't so stubborn, I wouldn't have argued with my manager last week.