

Conditional sentences. Revision.

современная школа

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Conditional Sentences

Zero Conditional

e.g. You **lose** weight if you **exercise** regularly.

(This is something which is generally or always true)

First Conditional

e.g. If they **buy** the house, they **won't regret**.

(This is something which is likely to happen in the future)

Conditional Sentences

Second Conditional

e.g. If he ***worked*** harder, he ***would pass*** his exam.

(This is something which is unlikely to happen in the future)

e.g. If I ***spoke*** Chinese, I ***would go*** and live there.

(This is unreal or contrary to present fact-I don't speak Chinese)

Third Conditional

e.g. She ***wouldn't have left*** if she ***had been promoted***.

(This is contrary to fact- she didn't get promoted. We use this conditional to speculate about what might have been happened in the past)

Notes

1. As well as *if* , conditional clauses can be introduced by:
as long as, unless(= if not), providing that
e.g. ***Providing that*** you pay my fair , I will come.
2. When the *if* clause is in second position, no comma is needed to separate the two clauses.

Mixed conditional sentences

In mixed conditional sentences, each clause refers to a different time.

E.g. Sarah **would be** here (now) if she **had caught** the train on time (past).

e.g. I **would have told** you (past) if I **knew** the answer. (I don't know now I didn't before)

Polite use of would/will

Would and **will** can occur in both clauses of a conditional sentence only when you wish to be polite or persuasive.
E.g. If you **would come** with me, I **would like to** introduce you to the President.
e.g. If you **will place** a large order, I **will give** you a generous discount.


Practice 1

Read these examples and answer the questions below:

1. What tense forms are used in the *if* – clause and in the main (result) clause in each example?

2. Which example refers to something that:

* is likely to happen? * is generally true? * is contrary to fact or unreal? * is unlikely to happen?


- a. If you buy shares in a company, you become a shareholder with voting rights.
 - b. If you buy shares in that company, you will become very rich.
 - c. If you bought shares in that company, you would become very rich.
 - d. If you had bought shares in that company, you would have become very rich.
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Practice 1 (keys)

1.

- a. present tense + zero conditional
- b. present tense + first conditional
- c. past simple + second conditional
- d. past perfect + third conditional


2.

- a. is generally true
 - b. is likely to happen
 - c. is unlikely to happen
 - d. is contrary to fact or unreal
- 

Practice 2

Read these examples and answer the questions below:

1. What time is referred to on each clause in these examples?
2. What do you notice about the use of commas in the examples?

- a. If he had stayed in Australia, he might have bought his own farm.
 - b. He would be a rich man if he had bought shares in the company.
 - c. If I didn't have family responsibilities , I could have spent a year travelling round the world.
 - d. If he had gone to college, his job prospects would be better.
 - e. If I knew the answer, I would have told you last week.
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Practice 2 (keys)

1.


- a. past + past
- b. present + past
- c. present + past
- d. past + present
- e. present + past

2. A comma is used when the if clause comes first, but not when it comes second.

Examples *a, c, d, e*


Practice 3

Read these sentences. Can you identify the two that are incorrect and correct them? What special meaning is expressed in sentence 2? Who might say this?

1. If you are late, I'll wait for you.
 2. If you would come with me, I'll take you to the director's office.
 3. If you had've been there, you would've seen us.
 4. John would still be working there if the company had paid him a good salary.
 5. You would be able to finish earlier if you wouldn't start earlier.
 6. If the price'd been lower, I think I'd 've bought it.
 7. If you would like a free ticket, there are plenty available.
 8. If I can do it, so can you.
- 

Practice 3 (keys)

Read these sentences. Can you identify the two that are incorrect and correct them? What special meaning is expressed in sentence 2? Who might say this?

1. If you are late, I'll wait for you.
 2. If you would come with me, I'll take you to the director's office. (is a correct polite request /offer. A secretary , or a member of staff might say this)
 3. If you had've been there, you would've seen us.(correct: If you had been there, you would have seen us)
 4. John would still be working there if the company had paid him a good salary.
 5. You would be able to finish earlier if you wouldn't start earlier.(correct: You would be able to finish earlier if you had started earlier)
 6. If the price'd been lower, I think I'd 've bought it.
 7. If you would like a free ticket, there are plenty available.
 8. If I can do it, so can you.
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Practice 4

Some but not all of the following sentences contain mistakes. Correct those that are wrong.

1. Whenever I lie in bed too long I will get a headache.
2. I'll lend you the car provided you fill it with petrol.
3. Unless you would have told me, I'd never have known you were 40!
4. I wouldn't do that if I had been you.
5. If it hadn't have been for that last question I might never have failed.
6. They'll never win provided they strengthen their defence.
7. If I'd kept up Spanish I could apply for this job.
8. If I had followed your directions we wouldn't have been lost now.



Practice 4 (keys)


Some but not all of the following sentences contain mistakes. Correct those that are wrong.

1. Whenever I lie in bed too long I **will get** a headache.(correct: get a headache)
2. I'll lend you the car provided you fill it with petrol.
3. **Unless you would have told** me, I'd never have known you were 40! (correct: If you hadn't told meI'd)
4. I wouldn't do that if I **had been** you.(correct: were you)
5. If it hadn't **have** been for that last question I might never have failed.(correct: if it hadn't been)
6. They'll never win **provided** they strengthen their defence.(correct : unless)
7. If I'd kept up Spanish I could apply for this job.
8. If I had followed your directions we **wouldn't have been lost** now.(correct: wouldn't be lost)




Practice 5

Complete the following paragraphs with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. If my dad (not decide) to go on holiday to Tunisia he(not meet) my mum, which means I (not be born) and I (write) this now!
 2. If I (be) better at maths at school I (take) more of an interest in my studies. Unfortunately I got bored and left. If I (stay on) and (pass) my exams I (have) a better job now.
 3. My friend Cathy almost certainly (not be) a lawyer now if her first serious boyfriend (not break) her heart and (leave) her for her best friend. She met someone else who was studying at university and later decided to study law.
 4. If I (not spend) all my summer holidays sunbathing, my skin (be) in much better condition now.
 5. If my father's car (not be stolen) he (not ask) his colleague to give him a lift. Consequently he (become) involved in a discussion about playing the lottery, and (not decide) to buy a ticket that weekend. One thing's for sure, if he (not buy) that ticket I (not drive) around in this beautiful Mercedes!
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Practice 5 (keys)

Complete the following paragraphs with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. If my dad **hadn't decided** to go on holiday to Tunisia he **wouldn't have met** my mum, which means I **wouldn't have been born** and I **wouldn't be writing** this now!
 2. If I **had been** better at maths at school I **might / would have taken** more of an interest in my studies. Unfortunately I got bored and left. If I **had stayed** on and passed my exams I **might / would have** a better job now.
 3. My friend Cathy almost certainly **wouldn't be** a lawyer now if her first serious boyfriend **hadn't broken** her heart and **(hadn't) left** her for her best friend. She met someone else who was studying at university and later decided to study law.
 4. If I **hadn't spent / didn't spend** all my summer holidays sunbathing, my skin **would / might be** in much better condition now.
 5. If my father's car **hadn't been stolen** he **wouldn't have asked** his colleague to give him a lift. Consequently he **wouldn't have become** involved in a discussion about playing the lottery, and **would/might not have decided** to buy a ticket that weekend. One thing's for sure, if he **hadn't bought** that ticket I **wouldn't be driving** around in this beautiful Mercedes!
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Спасибо за внимание!

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