

CONDITIONALS

Step 1:

❖ Read the following extract from the poem *If* by *Rudyard Kipling*

If

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: “Hold on!”

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And—which is more—you’ll be a Man, my son.

Important Vocabulary for this lesson

Words	Pronunciation	Meaning	Example
Precede (verb)	/prɪ'si:d/	to be or go before something or someone in time or space	In a conditional sentence, comma will be used when the Dependent Clause precedes Independent/Principal Clause.
Follow (verb)	/fa.ləʊ/	to move behind someone or something and go where they go	In a conditional sentence, no comma will be used when the Dependent Clause follows Independent/Principal Clause
Hypothetical (adjective)	/haɪ.pəθet.ɪ.kəl	imagined or suggested but not necessarily real or true	There are different types of conditionals that express a range of hypothetical information depending on the combination of verb tenses used in the conditional sentence.
Independent (adjective)	/ɪn.dɪpen.dənt/	Free from external control and constraint	In a conditional sentence, comma will be used when the Dependent Clause precedes Independent/Principal Clause.
Dependent (adjective)	/dɪpen.d ə nt/	Relying on or requiring a person or thing for support, supply, or what is needed	In a conditional sentence, no comma will be used when the Dependent Clause follows Independent/Principal Clause

Note: To learn more about these words, look at the other forms of these word in dictionary/corpus.

Step 2:

Required Tools

- ✓ *if/unless/had*
- ✓ *Clause*
- ✓ *Tense*

Definition

Conditional sentences are in the conditional mood (a sub-category of the subjunctive mood), which is used for hypothetical scenarios that are dependent on a certain condition or conditions. They are usually constructed using *if/unless/had* to identify the conditions that must be met.

Conditional Design: Conditional sentences have two parts, and they are as follow.

1. **Dependent Clause:** *if, unless & had* attached clause is called Dependent Clause. It cannot produce complete meaning without the help of Independent Clause.

If you want, I will help you.

Unless you study hard, you will not make a good result.

Had I been in your position, I would have told the truth.

In the above examples, the bold clauses starting with *if, unless & had* are the dependent clauses because alone they cannot stand as a sentence.

2. **Independent/ Principal/ Main Clause:** The clause other than “if clause” is called Independent Clause. It can produce complete meaning sense.

If you want, **I will help you.**

Unless you study hard, **you will not make a good result.**

Had I been in your position, **I would have told the truth.**

In the above examples, the bold clauses are the independent clauses because alone they can stand as a sentence.

Use of Comma (,)

Use of comma is very crucial for writing a conditional sentence having no punctuation mistakes. Consider the following two principles.

1. Comma will be used when the Dependent Clause *precedes* Independent/Principal Clause.

Example: If you want, I will help you.

2. When the Dependent Clause *follows* Independent/ Principal Clause, comma will be omitted.

Example: I will help you if you want.

Types of Conditionals:

There are different types of conditionals that express a range of hypothetical information depending on the combination of verb tenses used in the conditional sentence. The different types of conditionals are:

1. Zero Conditional
2. First Conditional
3. Second Conditional
4. Third Conditional

1. Zero conditional

A zero conditional sentence uses the present simple tense to talk about what is always or generally true. It is classified as a conditional because it creates a hypothetical situation to describe what would be true each time something happens.

The general structure for the zero conditional is:

Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
If + subject + present tense of predicate verb	,	subject + present tense of main verb

For example:

- “If you **throw** a ball in the air, it **comes** back down.” (Always true: A ball comes back down every time you throw it in the air.)
- “If we **get up** early, we always **go** jogging.” (Generally true: We jog every time we get up early.)

2. First conditional

The **first conditional** is very similar in structure to the zero conditional. We still use *if* plus the present simple to create the condition, except that we now use the **future simple tense** (*will + bare infinitive*) to describe a probable result of the condition.

Thus, the structure is:

Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
If + subject + present simple tense	,	subject + will + verb infinitive

For example:

- “If I **see** him, I **will tell** him.”
- “If I **win** the lottery, I **will buy** a new house.”

We can also create negative first conditionals by using the negative of the present simple in the if clause, and the negative of will in the future simple clause.

For example:

- “If **I do not go**, I **will not** see him.”
- “If **I don’t see him**, I **won’t have to say** goodbye.”
- “If he **doesn’t arrive** soon, we **won’t have** time to catch the 9:30 train.”

We can also reorder the sentence to have the future tense clause at the beginning of the sentence, and the if conditional clause at the end. Additionally, we can use modal auxiliary verbs other than will (such as must, can, could, may, might, or should) to create different shades of certainty in the future simple tense.

Let’s take a look at some examples:

- “I **will** go if he calls me.” (Will expresses a certainty.)
- “I **must** go if he calls me.” (Must expresses a personal obligation for the speaker.)
- “I **can** go if he calls me.” (Can expresses either permission from a third party or the fact that speaker is free from other commitments.)
- “I **might** go if he calls me.” (Might expresses a 50% possibility.)
- “I **may** go if he calls me.” (May is similar to might, but it is more formal and the possibility is slightly less.)
- “I **should** go if he calls me.” (The speaker feels a mild obligation.)
- “You **should** go if he calls you.” (The speaker is recommending that you go or is giving you a personal opinion.)
- “I **can’t** go if he calls me.” (The speaker is not able or does not have permission.)
- “I **shouldn’t** go if he calls me.” (The speaker feels a mild obligation not to.)
- “I **might/may not** go if he calls me.” (We very rarely contract might not in modern English, and we almost never contract may not.)

Interrogative sentences (questions)

To form a question in the first conditional, we invert the subject with the modal auxiliary verb.

- “If I he calls me, **should I go?**”
- “**Could I leave early** if Jake covers my shift?”
- “If I finish my homework on time, **may I go to the party?**”
- “If I come with you, **will you buy me lunch?**”.

Exercise 1: Choose the best option.

A.

1. Which word in the following sentence is a conditional verb?

“If clouds form on the horizon, it will likely rain.”

- a) likely
- b) If
- c) form
- d) will
- e) rain
- f) A, B, & C
- g) C, D, & E

2. The conditional verbs in the following sentence are in which tense?

“The pie will taste delicious if you make it properly.”

- a) past
- b) present
- c) future
- d) A & B
- e) B & C
- f) None of the above

3. Which set of conditional verbs is in the past tense?

- a) had played
- b) will run
- c) is walking
- d) will drive

4. Which word in the following sentence is not a conditional verb?

“The band will have played for three hours if it plays for another 20 minutes.”

- a) will
- b) if
- c) have
- d) played

5. Identify the conditional verbs in the following sentence.

“If everything goes according to plan, the group will arrive on Tuesday.”

- a) everything, goes, plan
- b) goes, then, will
- c) according, will, arrive,
- d) goes, will, arrive

Exercise 2: Zero

A.

1. What verb tense is used in the if clause for the second conditional?
 - a) Past simple tense
 - b) Past perfect tense
 - c) Future simple tense
 - d) Future perfect tense
2. Which of the following correctly completes this sentence using the third conditional?
“If I had been earlier, _____”
 - a) I would miss the train.
 - b) I missed the train.
 - c) I would not have missed the train.
 - d) I would not be missing the train.
3. Which two conditionals can form a mixed conditional?
 - a) Zero and first conditional
 - b) First and second conditional
 - c) Second and third conditional
 - d) First and third conditional
4. Which of the following modal verbs is most commonly used to create conditional sentences?
 - a) can
 - b) will
 - c) do
 - d) be
5. Which of the conditionals does not describe an unreal situation?
 - a) Third conditional
 - b) Second conditional
 - c) First conditional
 - d) Zero conditional
6. What kind of conditional is the following sentence an example of?
“I would have studied marine biology if I weren’t afraid of water.”
 - a) Mixed conditional
 - b) Third conditional
 - c) Second conditional
 - d) First conditional

B. Match the clauses below.

A

B

1. If I am late for class,
2. When he stays up very late,
3. People get hungry
4. If you study hard,
5. When she watches a movie,
6. When I cross the street,
7. I can't do my homework,
8. He always smiles
9. If I miss the bus,
10. When you make lots of noise,
11. Tea tastes sweet
12. You should eat less
13. I always take my umbrella
14. When I'm sad,
15. When he cleans the house,

- A. if they don't eat.
- B. I always look left and right.
- C. my teacher gets angry.
- D. when he is happy.
- E. I take a taxi to work.
- F. he is very tired the next morning.
- G. the librarian gets angry.
- H. if you want to lose weight.
- I. she likes to eat popcorn.
- J. when it rains.
- K. I watch a funny movie.
- L. he listens to music.
- M. you get good grades in school.
- N. if you add some sugar.
- O. if I don't have my glasses.

Exercise 3: First Conditional

A. Match the beginning of each sentence in A with its end in B.

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1 I will phone you a if you make so much noise.
2 If you wash the dishes, b we won't be able to play basketball.
3 You will make Grandma very happy c if I arrive before you.
4 If it doesn't stop raining, d if you visit her today.
5 John won't be tired e if he goes to bed soon.
6 The baby won't sleep f I will dry them.

B. Circle the correct words.

1. Andrew will water the garden if he **comes** / **will come** home.
2. We will buy our tickets if we **will have** / **have enough** money.
3. We will be late for the show unless you **hurry** / **will hurry**.
4. I **will take** / **take** an umbrella if it rains.
5. If it **is** / **will be** a nice day tomorrow, we will go for a bike ride.
6. He won't cross the road unless he **will see** / **sees** the green light.

3. Second Conditional

We use the **second conditional** to speak about a hypothetical situation or outcome resulting from the condition. Unlike the first conditional, we use outcome resulting from the condition. Unlike the first conditional, we use the second conditional to talk about things that cannot or are unlikely to happen. To create the second conditional, we use the **past simple tense** after the *if clause*, followed by **would** + the bare infinitive for the result of the condition. In addition to **would** (which we use to describe something we would definitely do), we can also use **could** for what we would be able to do, as well as **might** for what it is possible (but unlikely) we would do.

Thus, the structure is:

Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
If + subject + past simple tense	,	subject + would/could/might + verb infinitive

For example:

- “If I went to London, I **would visit** Trafalgar Square.”
- “If I won the lottery, I **could buy** a new house.”
- “If you had a phone, you **could call** me every day.”
- “If I was/were* older, I **might stay up** all night long.”

(*Note that in more formal English, it is standard to use **were** in conditional sentences using the past tense of **be**, irrespective of it having a singular or plural subject. However, in everyday writing and speech, it is common to use **was** for singular subjects.)

We can also put the second conditional in the negative to describe something that would not be the case if something else were also not the case. To form the negative, we use the negative of the past simple in the *if* clause, and make *would* negative in the clause describing the result of the condition.

For example:

- “If our father **didn’t work** so hard, we **wouldn’t be able** to afford this house.”
- “If I **didn’t live** in London, I **could never speak** English so well.”

Interrogative sentences (questions)

To form questions in the second conditional, we invert *would/could/might* with the subject.

For example:

- “If you had a million dollars, **would you buy** an expensive boat?”
- “**Would you travel** to South America if you spoke Spanish?”

We can also put a question word before **would** in this form:

- “**What would you do** if your family wasn’t so wealthy?”
- “**Where might you go** if you won the lottery?”
- “If you could have dinner with a famous person, **who would you choose?**”

4. Third Conditional

Third conditionals are used to establish a hypothetical situation in the past, followed by a hypothetical outcome that did not really happen—typically, the outcome is the opposite of what actually happened. To form the third conditional, we use the **past perfect tense** for the if conditional clause, and would have + the **past participle** of the verb for the hypothetical outcome. (As with the second conditional, we can also use could or might instead of would. Additionally, we can use should have + the past participle to describe an outcome that ought to have happened.)

Thus, the structure is:

Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
If + subject + past perfect tense	,	subject + would/could/might-have + verb past participle

For example:

- “If I **had been more prepared**, I **would have passed** that test.”

In reality, the speaker was not prepared, and so they did not pass the test. By creating a condition in the past using the past perfect tense, they can articulate how they might have achieved a different outcome if they were more prepared.

Here are some other examples:

- Truth: “She was not there and couldn’t help you.”
- Conditional: “If she **had been** there, she **could have helped** you.”
- Truth: “I was late for work yesterday because I overslept.”
- Conditional: “If I **hadn’t overslept**, I **wouldn’t have been** late for work.”
- Truth: “You knew you had a test today.”
- Conditional: “If you **knew** you had a test today, you **should have studied** harder.”

Interrogative sentences (questions)

To form a question in the third conditional, we invert would/could/might/should with the subject and add a question word before it (if necessary).

For example:

- “**Would you have come** to the party if you had known about it?”
- “**What might you have done** if you had known the truth?”

- “Where could you have gone if you hadn’t come here?”

The Mixed Conditional

A very commonly used “fifth” conditional is what’s known as the **mixed conditional**, which is a cross between the third conditional and the second. There are two ways to form a mixed conditional, depending on the meaning we wish to achieve. If it is being used to describe how an unreal situation in the past might have affected an unreal outcome in the present, we use the **past perfect tense** in the if conditional clause and *would / could + the bare infinitive* of the verb for the result of the condition.

For example:

- “If I **had studied** more (the condition is in the past), I **would be** a doctor (the result of the condition is in the present).”
- “If I **had been born** in Italy, I **would be** Italian.”
- “If he **hadn’t lost** his job, he **wouldn’t be unemployed**.”

If the mixed conditional is being used to describe how an unreal condition in the present might have affected an unreal outcome in the past, we use the **past simple tense** in the if conditional clause and *would have / could have + the past participle* of the verb for the result of the condition.

For example:

- “If I **wasn’t/weren’t** so shy (condition in the present), I **would have asked** her on a date (unreal outcome in the past).”
- “If she **was/were** a better driver, she **had have gotten** her license by now.”
- “If we **worked** a little harder, we **could have finished** this project already.”

Before you go for practicing the worksheets and quizzes take look at the conditionals at a glance.

Conditional	Structure		
Zero	Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
	If + subject + present tense of predicate verb	,	subject + present tense of main verb
1st	Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
	If + subject + present simple tense	,	subject + will + verb infinitive
2nd	Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
	If + subject + past simple tense	,	subject + would/could/might + verb infinitive
3rd	Dependent Clause	Comma	Independent Clause
	If + subject + past perfect tense	,	subject + would/could/might-have + verb past participle

Exercise 4: Second Condition

A.

Shamim: Hey, Rashed, I'm going to have a day out with one of my classmates I met in my art class last week. Any ideas?

Rashed: If I _____ (be) you, I _____ (take) him/her to a museum.

Shamim: That's a good idea, which one do you recommend?

Rashed: Well, if I _____ (have to) choose, I _____ (go) to the National Museum, and I _____ (visit) the North wing, that's where the most interesting paintings are.

Shamim: What if she gets bored?

Shamim: If she _____ (get) bored with S M Sultan's paintings, I _____ (suggest) her to visit Joynul Abedin's room.

Shamim: Maybe she doesn't like modern art.

Rashed: If she _____ (not/like) modern art, I _____ (not/date) her anymore!!!!

Shamim: If I _____ (be) you, I _____ (take) art so seriously!

Rashed: And if I _____ (be) you, I _____ (not/date) so many girls!

III.

Jahid: If you _____ (be) more punctual, we _____ (not/arrive) late everywhere!

Taniya: If I _____ (finish) work earlier, I _____ (be) ready before, but you know I always finish at eight o'clock.

Jahid: Yes, but if you _____ (ask) your boss to let you leave half an hour before, we _____ (meet) our friends on time.

Taniya: If you _____ (want) to meet your friends on time, you _____ (can/pick) me up from work, so I _____ (not/have) to take a bus home.

Jahid: If I _____ (pick) you up from work, I _____ (not/have) time to change clothes.

Taniya: If you _____ (love) me, you _____ (worry) about me!

Jahid: If you _____ (not/act) like a child, you _____ (understand) me.

Taniya: and if you _____ (not/be) so selfish, you _____ (know) why I am angry at you now!

Jahid: I give up! Let's go. They're waiting for us.

B. Match the two sentence halves and write a–g next to the numbers 1–7.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. I wouldn't have overslept | a. if you'd asked. |
| 2. If she had gone to bed earlier, | b. you wouldn't have been so stressed at the last minute. |
| 3. I could have lent you the money | c. she wouldn't have been so tired. |
| 4. They wouldn't have found out | d. if you had studied medicine. |
| 5. You could have been a doctor | e. if my alarm clock hadn't gone off. |
| 6. If you'd been more organized, | f. they wouldn't have had so many problems. |
| 7. If they'd taken my advice, | g. if you hadn't told them. |

C. Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1. Have told me. would if remembered I you'd
.....
2. would had have revised more, passed the exam. she If she
.....
3. the train If we have hadn't missed, we would
arrived on time.
.....
4. If been there have met him. you'd could you
.....
5. I If could have I'd known helped.
.....
6. if could have gone wanted to. You you'd
.....

Step 3

A.

C.

Read the sentences and make conditional sentences type 1

If + present simple + will + infinitive



I must exercise regularly to keep fit.

If _____



I want to take the bus to arrive early to work.

If _____



Karim must run faster to win the race.

If _____



I have to work hard in order to succeed.

If _____



Himu eats too much and he feels sick.

If _____



Shamim should take some medicines to become well.

If _____



Borhan should find a job, and his wife will not shout at him again.

If _____



Is Lima Very Tired? Then, she must go to sleep.

If _____



Revise your lesson, and you won't fail the exam.

If _____



Brush your teeth regularly, and you won't have a toothache.

If _____



Sayma has to do some experiments to understand chemistry well.

If _____



Drive carefully, and you won't have an accident.

If _____

B.

C. Read the sentences and make conditional sentences type 3.

If + past perfect + would have + past participle



As he wasn't very careful yesterday, he fell downstairs

If he _____



The teacher punished Jahir yesterday because he didn't do his homework.

If Jack _____



Kashfia didn't go to bed early last night; that's why she got up late in the morning

If Kate _____



As he came late to work last week, the boss fired him.

If he _____



Soniya didn't win the race last Sunday because she didn't run fast.

If Soniya _____



The police arrested him yesterday as he robbed a bank.

If he _____



As you didn't lock the door yesterday, the burglar got in.

If you _____



Kabir didn't work hard last year and he got a bad mark.

If Kabir _____



As he drove carelessly yesterday, he ran over a stop sign.

If he _____



She didn't invite me, so I didn't go to the party.

If she _____



Hasan had a stomach-ache yesterday because he ate too much food.

If Hasan _____



I didn't see Mr.Bean's last show as I wasn't in London last week.

If I _____

C. Writing and Speaking Activity [Second Condition]



Winning the Lottery

If I (V2), I would ...

Do you ever buy lottery tickets or play the lotto? Just imagine that one day you hit the jackpot and win \$ 1 million.

What would you do if you won the lottery?

Think about ...

- ... what you would do with the money.
- ... what you would buy for you/family/friends.
- ... who you would give some to.



You can use words from the word bank below. Make a plan and start writing. You can illustrate your story if you want.

If I won the lottery, I would ...



bank	charity	flashy sports car	party	expensive	swimming pool
invest	gold	world trip	early retirement	drop out of school	

D. Read the following passage about “TITANIC” and follow the instructions below.



On April 10th 1912, the Titanic set sail on its

first trip, from England to New York. At the time it was made, it was said to be the safest ship ever built. However, at 11:40 p.m. on April 12th 1912, it hit an iceberg in the North Atlantic, and three hours later, at 2:20 a.m., it sank. There were 2200 people on board, but only 705 survived; 1503 people died, most from freezing to death in the cold water.

Why did the accident happen, and why did so many people die? There was not one single reason; it was the result of many factors.

- The ship received warnings about icebergs ahead, but didn't slow down; instead it continued to sail at full speed.
- The lookout sailor didn't have any binoculars with him, so he wasn't able to see the iceberg until it was too close to miss.
- Although the ship carried 2200 passengers, there were only 20 lifeboats, enough for a maximum of 1200 people.
- Because the Titanic was thought to be unsinkable many passengers didn't take the danger seriously and didn't hurry to the lifeboats. Many of the lifeboats left only half full.
- The survivors were picked up by another ship, the Carpathia, which received the emergency radio message. Another ship in the area, however, which was actually closer to the Titanic than the Carpathia, didn't hear the emergency call because the radio operator had gone to bed.

How could the disaster have been prevented?

Make five sentences like these:

If the water had been warmer, more people would have survived.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____

Exercise 5: Mixed

A. Activity: First, Underline Conditional Sentences. Then, ask you peer where would he / she go for weekend and why?

Instruction: Read the Story and underline the Conditional Sentences. The first one is done for you.

Weekend Plan

Mamun and Payel are friends. They are both busy because of the work and study! But on Wednesday they meet for coffee.

"What are you going to do this weekend?" asks Payel.

"Well, I have a big project to finish for my design class. But if I can finish it by Friday, I'll do something fun as a treat," says Mamun.

"That sounds great!" replies Payel. "I think the James is coming to town for a concert. If it isn't too expensive, I'm going to buy tickets. Would you like to come?"

"Well, I don't really like concert very much. If you want to go to the concert in the evening, let's do something in the morning," says Mamun.

"All right. If you have the energy, let's go swimming!" suggests Payel.

"That sounds great! If I don't call you on Friday, send me an email at work," agrees Mamun. "And if I don't answer, call me again. And if I don't pick up... oh, let's just make plans now! I'm too busy to plan later!"

B. Activity: Underline and Rewrite Conditional Sentences

Instruction: Read the Story and underline the incorrect Conditional Sentences and rewrite them making necessary corrections. The first one is done for you.

The Cat & Mouse

Once upon a time the cat bit a mouse's tail off. "Give me back my tail," said the mouse. And the cat said, "Well, I would give you back your tail if you (fetch) me some milk (Correction: fetched). But that's impossible to do for a little mouse like you." The mouse, however, went to the cow. "The cat gave me back my tail if I fetch her some milk." And the cow said, "Well, I would give you milk if you getting me some hay. But that's impossible to do for a little mouse like you."

The mouse, however, went to the farmer. "The cat will only give me back my tail if the cow given me some milk. And the cow only gave me milk if I get her some hay."

And the farmer said, “Well, I would give you hay if you brought me some meat. But that’s impossible to do for a little mouse like you.”

The mouse, however, went to the butcher. “The cat will only give me back my tail if the cow might have given me milk. And the cow will only give me milk if she got some hay. And the farmer has only given me hay if I get him some meat.” And the butcher said, “Well, I would have given you meat if you made the baker bake me a bread. But that’s impossible to do for a little mouse like you.”

The mouse, however, went to the baker. “The cat will only give me back my tail if I fetch her some milk. And the cow will not give me milk if I don’t get her hay. And the farmer will only give me hay if the butcher had some meat for him. And the butcher will not give me meat if you do not baking him a bread.”

And the baker said, “Well, I will give you bread if you promised never to steal my corn or meal.”

The mouse promised not to steal, and so the baker gave the mouse bread, the mouse gave the butcher bread. The butcher gave the mouse meat, the mouse gave the farmer meat. The farmer gave the mouse hay, the mouse gave the cow hay. The cow gave the mouse milk, the mouse gave the cat milk. And the cat gave the mouse her tail back.

But imagine what would have happened otherwise:

If the mouse had not promised never to steal corn or meal, the baker will not had given the mouse bread.

If the baker had not given the mouse bread, the butcher had refused to give her meat for the farmer.

If the butcher has refused her any meat, the farmer would not have been willing to give the mouse hay. If the farmer had not been willing to give the mouse hay, the mouse would not have receive milk from the cow.

C. Discussion: Speaking in pairs/groups

- I. Now, discuss why the parts of the sentences were incorrect.
- II. Ask your pair/group members what would s/he/they do if s/he/they were the mouse/cat/cow/farmer/butcher/baker?
- III. Now, write your response and speak it out in front the class.

D. Write at home and share with your pair/group in next class.

- I. If you had been born a boy/girl, how would your life have been different?