

# First and second conditional

Lesson code: DL7B-7EAB-8RR8-H

INTERMEDIATE +

## 1 Presentation

When we talk about possible or hypothetical situations with **If ...**, we can use a **first conditional** or **second conditional** structure. Study the table below.

Structure	Examples and use
<b>First conditional</b> <i>If I do ..., I'll (= I will) ...</i>  Instead of <b>will</b> , we can use other modal verbs, e.g. <b>can, might, may, must, should</b> .	According to the weather forecast, it might rain tonight. <b>If it rains, I'll stay</b> at home.  <i>We use the <b>first conditional</b> when there is a real possibility that something will happen in the future.</i>  <b>If I don't</b> call you tonight, <b>you can</b> call me. <b>Will you wait</b> for me <b>if I am</b> late?
<b>Second conditional</b> <i>If I did ..., I'd (= I would) ...</i>  Instead of <b>would</b> , we can use <b>could</b> or <b>might</b> .	At the moment, it's raining. <b>If it was</b> sunny, <b>I'd</b> go out.  <i>We use the <b>second conditional</b> when we imagine a situation or when there is very little or no possibility that something will happen.</i>  What <b>would you do if you found</b> a lot of money in the street? <b>If it wasn't</b> dark outside, <b>we could</b> go out.

### Things to remember

- We do not use **will** or **would** in the **if**-part of a conditional sentence:  
If it ~~will~~ rain rains, I'll stay at home.
- The **if**-part of the sentence can go at the beginning or at the end:  
**If it rains**, I'll stay at home.                      I'll stay at home **if it rains**.
- In the **second conditional** we use **if + past** (if I did, if I didn't, etc.), but the meaning is *not* past. In this type of structure, the past tense refers to an imaginary or hypothetical situation, such as finding a lot of money in the street:  
What would you do if **you found** a lot of money in the street?
- In a **first conditional** sentence, we can use **when** instead of **if** for things that we are sure will happen:  
**When** she comes, I'll call you.

## 2 Practice 1

Put the verb in the correct form to complete each sentence.

1. If global warming continues, temperatures will rise (rise) even higher.
2. What would you do if you won (win) a million dollars?
3. If people stopped using cars completely, there would be (be) much less pollution.
4. When it rains (rain) again, I won't forget to bring my umbrella.
5. If I spoke English fluently, I wouldn't need (not/need) to take lessons.
6. If Siberia weren't be (not/be) so cold, I'd go there in winter.
7. Tom will be at the party tonight. If I see him, I 'll say (say) hello.
8. If it weren't rain (not/rain) so much in England, you wouldn't see so many umbrellas.
9. I 'll call (call) you when I get home.
10. Where will you live (you/live) when you move out of your flat?
11. If you could (can) choose any company, which company would you like to work for?

## 3 Practice 2

Study each situation and complete the sentence below. Decide whether to use a first or second conditional structure.

1. According to the weather forecast there is a chance of snow tomorrow.  
If it snow (snow), I 'll need (need) to buy a pair of gloves.
2. Patrick is deciding whether to go to France or Spain on his next holiday.  
If Patrick goes (go) to Spain, he 'll be (be) very satisfied.
3. John works 12 hours a day.  
If John weren't (not/be) so busy, he 'd have (have) more time for his family.
4. Kate is out of work, but she goes shopping every day.  
If Kate continues (continue) to go shopping, she 'll run out (run out) of money.
5. It is a sunny day with clear blue skies.  
If it rained (rain), I 'd need (need) an umbrella.
6. Anne's boss is very demanding.  
If Anne's boss weren't be (not/be) so demanding, she wouldn't be (not/be) so stressed.
7. Daniel has an exam tomorrow.  
If Daniel passes (pass) his exam, he 'll celebrate (celebrate) with his friends.
8. Fabio and Carlo are best friends.  
If Fabio and Carlo weren't be (not/be) best friends, they probably wouldn't be (not/be) living together.
9. Derek doesn't have a car. It takes him an hour to get to work.  
If Derek had (have) a car, it wouldn't take (not/take) him so long to get to work.
10. The Olympic Games are held every four years.  
If the Olympics were (be) held every year, they wouldn't be (not/be) so interesting.

# 9A VOCABULARY Animal quiz

a Read the definitions and write the animals in the column on the right.



- 1 This animal lives in Australia and carries its baby in a pocket.

2 It's an insect which makes honey. It's yellow and black.

3 This animal lives in the sea and is very clever.

4 It's an animal which can live for two weeks with no water.

5 The cartoon character *Bugs Bunny* is one of these.

6 They're sea animals and swim slowly. If one touches you, it really hurts!

7 This animal has a very long neck and lives in Africa.

8 These animals give milk which people drink.

9 This animal has a very warm, white coat.

10 It's a very small insect which bites people at night.

11 The plural of this animal is *mice*.

12 This animal lives in rivers. It's green or grey and has a lot of teeth.

13 It's a very big, grey animal from Africa or India.

14 This animal is a long, thin reptile, and many people are scared of them.

15 People rode this animal before they had cars.

16 This animal is 'the king of the jungle'.

17 It's a very big, orange and black cat.

18 This pink animal lives on a farm and isn't very clean.

19 People say this animal will attack you if you're wearing something red.

20 This animal doesn't come out during the day. It can fly, but it can't see.
- a kangaroo

a bee

a dolphin

a camel

a rabbit

a jellyfish

a giraffe

a cow

a sheep

a mosquito

a mouse

a crocodile

an elephant

a snake

A horse

a monkey

a tiger

a pig

a bull

a bat

## activation

b Cover the animals and look at sentences 1–20. Can you remember the animals?