

## Introduction to conditional

Some sentences with the word *if* are called conditional sentences.

With every conditional sentence, there are two parts: a situation and the result of that situation. It is the situation that starts with *if*.

There are different types of conditional sentence, depending on what the situation is.

## Helpful hints

- When we start the sentence with *if*, we separate the situation and the result with a comma.  
✓ *If you join a gym, I'll join too.*
- When we start the sentence with the result, we don't use a comma.  
✓ *I'll join too if you join a gym.*

## Zero conditional

Form

*if* + present simple, present simple

## Use

General or scientific facts

## Example

*If people **eat** too much, they often **get** fat.*

## First conditional

Form

*if* + present simple, *will* + bare infinitive

## Use

Real or likely situations in the present or future and their results

## Example

*If you **take** these pills, you'll **start** to feel better very soon.*

## Helpful hints

- We can also use other modals instead of *will*, depending on the meaning.  
✓ *If you get some rest, you **might** feel better tomorrow.*
- We can also use an imperative instead of *will* to give instructions.  
✓ *If you don't feel well, **go** home!*

## Second conditional

Form

*if* + past simple, *would* + bare infinitive

## Use

Impossible or unlikely situations in the present or future and their results

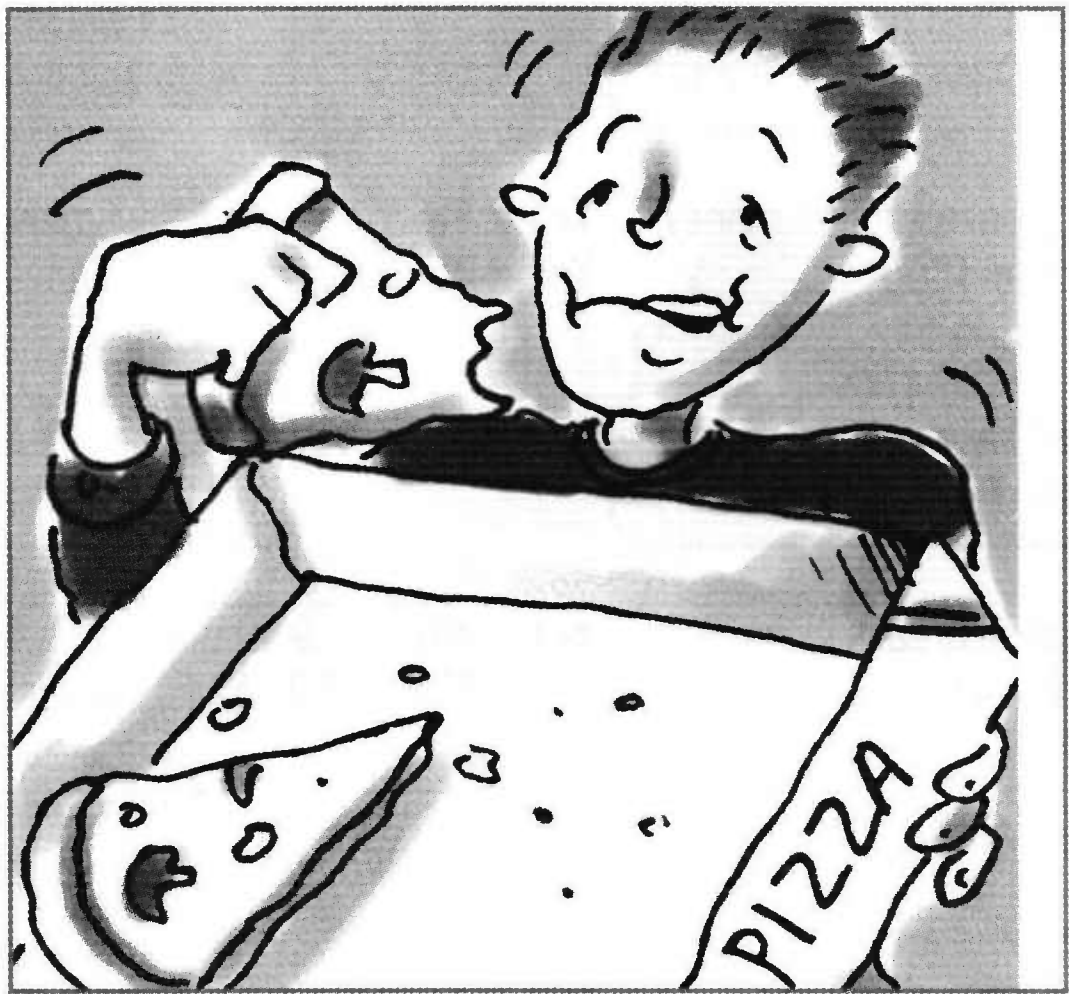
## Example

*If my legs **were** longer, I **would be** a much faster runner!*

## Helpful hints

We can also use the second conditional to give advice. We use the phrases *If I were you ...* or *If I was you ...* for this. *If I were you ...* is more formal than *If I was you ...*

- ✓ *If I **were** you, I would eat less chocolate.* (more formal)
- ✓ *If I **was** you, I'd eat less chocolate!* (more informal)



Third conditional

Form

if + past perfect simple, would + have + past participle

Use	Example
Unreal situations in the past and their unreal past results	If the chemist <b>had been</b> open, I <b>would have bought</b> some aspirin. ( = The chemist wasn't open, so I didn't buy any aspirin.)
	If I <b>hadn't listened</b> to you, I <b>would have cooked</b> the chicken for too long. ( = I listened to you, so I didn't cook the chicken for too long.)
	If he <b>had seen</b> the doctor, he <b>wouldn't have been</b> ill for such a long time. ( = He didn't see the doctor, so he was ill for a long time.)
	If you <b>hadn't eaten</b> a giant pizza, you <b>wouldn't have been sick</b> ! ( = You ate a giant pizza, so you were sick.)

Helpful hints

We can also use *could* and *might* instead of *would*, depending on the meaning.

- ✓ If you *had eaten* a giant pizza, you **might** have been sick!  
( = It's possible, but not certain, that you would have been sick.)
- ✓ If Mary *had told* me she was coming, I **could** have cooked a nice meal.  
( = I would have been able to cook a nice meal.)



- The third conditional is the only conditional that refers to the past.  
✓ If I **had had** a headache, I *would have taken* an aspirin. ( = in the past)
- We use past simple in the second conditional, but that does **not** refer to the past.  
✓ If I **had** a headache, I *would take* an aspirin. ( = now or generally)
- For more information on the second conditional, see Unit 28.

## Topic vocabulary

see page 195 for definitions

affect (v)	flu (n)	recover (v)
balance (v, n)	have an operation (v phr)	salty (adj)
benefit (v, n)	healthy (adj)	slice (v, n)
breathe (v)	ignore (v)	sour (adj)
chew (v)	infection (n)	spicy (adj)
chop (v)	ingredient (n)	stir (v)
contain (v)	injury (n)	suffer (v)
cough (v, n)	limit (v, n)	taste (v, n)
cure (v, n)	meal (n)	treatment (n)
exercise (v, n)	pill (n)	vitamin (n)

## Phrasal verbs

<b>cut down (on)</b>	do less of sth (smoking, etc)
<b>fall down</b>	trip and fall
<b>get over</b>	recover from (an illness, etc)
<b>go off</b>	no longer be fresh
<b>lie down</b>	start lying (on a bed, etc)
<b>put on</b>	gain (weight)
<b>sit down</b>	(start to) sit
<b>stand up</b>	(start to) stand

## Prepositional phrases

at night
at risk
in addition (to)
in comparison to/with
in shape
on a diet

## Word formation

<b>bake</b>	baker, bakery	<b>medicine</b>	medical
<b>bend</b>	bent	<b>pain</b>	painful, painless
<b>cook</b>	cooker, cookery	<b>reduce</b>	reduction
<b>intend</b>	intention, intentional	<b>sense</b>	sensible, sensitive
<b>jog</b>	jogging, jogger	<b>weigh</b>	weight

## Word patterns

<i>adjectives</i>	addicted to allergic to covered in/with pleased with		die from/of fight against recover from smell of
<i>verbs</i>	combine sth with complain (to sb) about	<i>nouns</i>	a cure for a recipe for