Predictions and Conditionals in English

- **Predicting** is part of every situations: laboral, academic, scientific… situations. A manager predicts about the development of the enterprise he or she runs.

- Some situations or events can be predicted accurately; others only in terms of probability, and some others are impossible.

- **The Zero Conditional**   **The First Conditional**

- **The Second Conditional**   **The Third Conditional**

Real Predictions /Conditionals

- **The Zero Conditional**

- It talks about general true situations related to science, biology, logic…

Examples:

- *If we heat* water to 100 Celsius degrees, *it boils*.

- *If you don´t pay* taxes, *you get* a fine.

- *If you drink* alcohol, *don't drive*.

Formula:

- I**f + present simple, presente simple**

- The First conditional

- About situations that might happen in the future, if the conditions are met.

Examples:

- *If the enterprise sells* the whole stock, *it will get* good profits.

- *If it rains, I won't go to* the soccer game.

Formula:

- **if + present simple, … will + infinitive**

Unreal Predictions/Conditionals

- **Second Conditional**

It talks about situations that are **unlikely** to happen. Maybe I'm imagining some dream.

Examples:

- *If the company had* more money, *it would pay* better salaries to the employees.

- *He would be* a good president *if he was/were* more intelligent.

Formula:

- **if + past simple, ...would + infinitive**

- **Third Conditional**

It talks about a past situation that didn't happen. both the condition and result are **impossible**.

Examples:

- *If* the CEO *had taken* a good decision, the enterprise *would not have broken*.

- *If I hadn't been* so busy, *I could have helped* you.

Formula:

If + Past Perfect, would/might/could/should + info.