

Conditional clauses

Only if

expresses the idea that there is only one condition that will cause a particular result.

He can stay on the team only if he completes his homework and improves his grades.

You'll lose weight only if you stick to your diet.

She was authorized to speak only if she remains anonymous.

Unless

Means exception on the condition that. Needs a main clause to make a complete sentence.

You'll be sick unless you stop eating.

Unless he was very ill, he would be at work.

I wouldn't eat that food unless I was really hungry.

Provided

It means that some condition has to be met in order for something else to be true.

The drive home provided opportunity to think.

Alex had provided all of that without prompting.

The headlights behind provided a sense of false security.

Even if

Means whether or not. It is used to emphasize that something will still be true if another thing happens.

I can't go back to Gabriel, even if I do win.

Not even if I get your teams ready?

I don't think you would have, even if you weren't married.

IDGS 8-3
Galvan Victor