

## Conditionals

### Conditional zero

We can make a zero conditional sentence with two **present simple** verbs (one in the 'if clause' and one in the 'main clause'):

- If + present simple, .... present simple.

This conditional is used when the result will always happen. So, if water reaches 100 degrees, it always boils. It's a fact. I'm talking in general, not about one particular situation. The result of the 'if clause' is always the main clause.

The 'if' in this conditional can usually be replaced by 'when' without changing the meaning.

#### **Example:**

If water **reaches** 100 degrees, it **boils**. (It is always true, there can't be a different result sometimes).

### Conditional one

Conditional one has the **present simple** after 'if', then the **future simple** in the other clause:

- if + present simple, ... will + infinitive

It's used to talk about things which might happen in the future. Of course, we can't know what will happen in the future, but this describes possible things, which could easily come true.

#### **Examples**

- If it **rains**, I **won't go** to the park.
- If I **study** today, I **'ll go** to the party tonight.
- If I **have** enough money, I **'ll buy** some new shoes.
- She **'ll be** late if the train **is** delayed.

- She **'ll miss** the bus if she **doesn't leave** soon.
- If I **see** her, I **'ll tell** her.

## Conditional two

Conditional two uses the **past simple** after if, then 'would' and the infinitive:

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

(We can use 'were' instead of 'was' with 'I' and 'he/she/it'. This is mostly done in formal writing).

It has two uses.

First, we can use it to talk about things in the future that are probably not going to be true. Maybe I'm imagining some dream for example.

### Examples

- If I **won** the lottery, I **would buy** a big house. (I probably won't win the lottery)
- She **would travel** all over the world if she **were** rich.
- She **would pass** the exam if she ever **studied**. (She never studies, so this won't happen)

Second, we can use it to talk about something in the present which is impossible, because it's not true.

- If I **had** his number, I **would call** him. (I don't have his number now, so it's impossible for me to call him).
- If I **were** you, I **wouldn't go** out with that .

## Conditional three

We make conditional three by using the **past perfect** after 'if' and then 'would have' and the **past participle** in the second part of the sentence:

- if + past perfect, ...would + have + past participle

It talks about the past. It's used to describe a situation that didn't happen, and to imagine the result of this situation.

### Examples

- If she **had studied**, she **would have passed** the exam (but, really we know she didn't study and so she didn't pass)

- If I **hadn't eaten** so much, I **wouldn't have felt** sick (but I did eat a lot, and so I did feel sick).
- If we **had taken** a taxi, we **wouldn't have missed** the plane
- She **wouldn't have been** tired if she **had gone** to bed earlier