

- **Conditionals: zero, first, second, third, mixed, inverted / unless, in case, as/so long as, provided (that)**

### Zero conditional

Form <i>if + present simple, present simple</i>	
Use	Example
General or scientific facts and definitions	If you <b>have</b> faith in something, you <b>believe</b> in something you cannot prove.

### First conditional

Form <i>if + a present tense, will + bare infinitive</i>	
Use	Example
Real or likely conditions in the present or future and their results in the present and future	If you <b>have</b> a birthday party, you <b>ll get</b> loads of cool presents!
	If you're <b>working</b> till half past six, we <b>ll have</b> dinner at about eight.
	If you <b>have revised</b> properly, you <b>won't have</b> any problems in the test next week.

#### Watch out!

- We can also use *may, might, can, could, shall, should, ought to, have to* instead of *will*, depending on the meaning.  
✓ If you **have** a birthday party, you **might get** loads of cool presents!
- We can also use *should + bare infinitive* instead of present simple. This suggests the situation is possible, but unlikely to happen.  
✓ If you **should bump** into Alex at the concert, you'll be able to get a lift home.
- We can also use a form of the first conditional to give instructions about real or likely situations in the present or future. This is: *if + a present tense, imperative*.  
✓ If you **decide** to have a birthday party, **tell me!**

### unless, in case, as/so long as, provided (that)

Word or Phrase	Meaning	Example
<i>unless</i>	'except if' or 'if...not'	I'll be there at six <b>unless</b> I get delayed. (= except if I get delayed / if I don't get delayed)
<i>in case</i>	'because he/she/it/etc might'	Let's take our wellies <b>in case</b> it's muddy. (= because it might be muddy)
<i>as/so long as</i>	'if' or 'only if'	<b>As long as</b> I'm happy, my parents don't care what job I do. <b>So long as</b> I'm happy, my parents don't care what job I do.
<i>provided (that)</i>	'if' or 'only if'	<b>Provided (that)</b> I'm happy, my parents don't care what job I do.

### Second conditional

Form <i>if + past simple or past continuous, would + bare infinitive</i>	
Use	Example
Impossible, unlikely or hypothetical conditions in the present or future and their results in the present or future	If you <b>had</b> a beard, you <b>would look</b> just like Charles Dickens! If you <b>were flying</b> to Rio, <b>would you get</b> there much quicker?
Advice	If I <b>were</b> you, I would think very carefully about my future. (more formal) If I <b>was</b> you, I'd have a party at the weekend! (more informal)

#### Watch out!

- We can also use *might* or *could* instead of *would*, depending on the meaning. (Note: *could* here often means *would be able to*.)  
✓ If we **were** older, we **could go** on holiday on our own.
- We can also use *could* in the *if* clause. Here, it means *was/were able to*.  
✓ If I **could** drive, I'd buy a car.