

Third conditional**Form** *if + past perfect (simple or continuous), would + have + past participle*

Use	Example
Hypothetical conditions in the past and their results in the past	<i>If you had worn a fake beard, no one would have known who you were! (= You didn't wear a fake beard so people knew who you were.)</i> <i>If she'd been wearing her new glasses, I would have noticed them. (= She wasn't wearing her new glasses so I didn't notice them.)</i>

Watch out!

- We can also use *might*, *could* or *should* instead of *would*, depending on the meaning.
✓ *If I **had done** some revision, I **might / could / should** have passed the exam.*

Mixed conditionals**Form** *if + past perfect (simple or continuous), would + bare infinitive*

Use	Example
Hypothetical past condition and a present result	<i>If I had listened to my parents, I wouldn't be in so much trouble now. (= I didn't listen to my parents so I'm in lots of trouble now.)</i>

Form *if + past simple or past continuous, would + have + past participle*

Use	Example
Hypothetical present condition and a past result	<i>If I had a mobile, I would have called you last night. (= I don't have a mobile so I didn't call you last night.)</i>

Inverted conditionals

Form *Should I/you/he/etc ... instead of If I/you/he/etc should ...*
Were I/you/he/etc ... instead of If I/you/he/etc were ...
Had I/you/he/etc ... instead of If I/you/he/etc had ...

Use	Example
More formal form of the first conditional (with <i>should</i>)	<i>Should the situation worsen, the United Nations is prepared to send in a peacekeeping force. (= If the situation should worsen...)</i>
More formal form of the second conditional	<i>Were the situation to worsen, the United Nations would be prepared to send in a peacekeeping force. (= If the situation were to worsen...)</i>
More formal form of the third conditional	<i>Had the situation worsened, the United Nations would have been prepared to send in a peacekeeping force. (= If the situation had worsened...)</i>

Watch out!

- For all conditional sentences (first, second, third, mixed, inverted), when the condition comes before the result it is usually followed by a comma. When the result comes first, no comma is necessary.
✓ *If I had a mobile, I would have called you last night.*
✓ *I would have called you last night if I had a mobile.*
- In conditional sentences, modals (*will*, *would*, *could*, etc) are sometimes followed by a continuous infinitive.
✓ *We'd still **be waiting** if you hadn't turned up.*

US vs UK Grammar

- With second and third conditionals in informal conversation, speakers of American English sometimes use *would* or *would have* in the *if* clause. This is very unusual in British English.
US: *How would you feel if this **happened / would happen** to you?*
UK: *How would you feel if this **happened** to you?*
US: *I would have felt awful if that **had happened / would have happened** to me.*
UK: *I would have felt awful if that **had happened** to me.*