



# Conditionals



# Definition

Conditionals are sentences that describe cause and effect, showing what might happen if a particular condition is met.





# Zero Conditional

**When we use it:** For facts, general truths, or rules—things that are always true when the condition is met.

**Structure:** If + present simple, ... present simple.

**Example:** "If water reaches 100°C, it boils."

**Explanation:** Here, it's a fact. Every time water gets that hot, it boils. It's not hypothetical or uncertain





# First Conditional

**When we use it:** For real or possible situations in the future. It's something that could actually happen.

**Structure:** If + present simple, ... will + base verb.

**Example:** "If it rains, I'll bring an umbrella."

**Explanation:** The condition (it raining) could realistically happen, and if it does, there will be a specific outcome (bringing the umbrella).



# Second Conditional



**When we use it:** For imaginary or unlikely situations—things that probably won't happen or aren't true.

**Structure:** If + past simple, ... would + base verb.

**Example:** "If I won the lottery, I would travel the world."

**Explanation:** Winning the lottery is unlikely, but we're imagining the outcome if it did happen.





# Third Conditional

**When we use it:** For situations in the past that didn't happen. It's like imagining an alternative past.

**Structure:** If + past perfect, ... would have + past participle.

**Example:** "If I had studied harder, I would have passed the test."

**Explanation:** Here, the condition (studying harder) didn't happen, so we're imagining a different result in the past (passing the test).



# Mixed Conditionals



These are combinations of second and third conditionals, used to talk about an unreal past affecting the present, or an unreal present affecting the past.

## Examples:

Past condition with present result: "If I had gone to bed early (past), I wouldn't be tired now (present)."

Present condition with past result: "If I were rich (present), I would have bought that car (past)."

