

Zero conditional

We use the zero conditional when we want to talk about things which are always true — such as scientific facts and general truths.

When Sun heats water, it gets water vapor.

Cause

Consequence/effect

The zero conditional uses **if** or **when** and must be followed by the simple present or imperative.

For example:

- ° **When** the Sun shines on water on the Earth's surface, the heat of the Sun warms the water turning into an invisible gas called water vapor.
- ° **If** the Sun shines on water on the Earth's surface, the heat of the Sun warms the water turning into an invisible gas called water vapor.
- ° **When** water droplets bump into one another, they stick together and grow in size.
- ° **If** water droplets bump into one another, they stick together and grow in size.
- ° **When** condensation occurs in the sky, clouds form and grow.
- ° **If** condensation occurs in the sky, clouds form and grow.

Here are some more examples:

- ° If people **eat** too much, they **get** fat.
- ° If you **touch** a fire, you **get** burned.
- ° You **get** water if you **mix** hydrogen and oxygen.

You can write first the cause and then the consequence or first the consequence then the cause.