

## Mixed conditionals

In addition to all the tense variations that we can use in first, second and third conditionals, it is also possible to mix conditionals so that, for example, the *if* clause uses a verb form used in the first conditional and the main clause uses a verb form used in the third conditional. The context defines the meaning. The most common mixed conditional is:

3rd  
*if* + past perfect

2nd  
**would/could/might** + infinitive

### Examples of mixed conditionals

3rd	2nd
If I <b>had worked</b> harder at university,	I <b>would have</b> a degree now.

1st                      2nd

If you **come** to the party tomorrow, I **wouldn't bring** Mike with you.

2nd                      3rd

If she **loved** him, she **would have stayed** with him.

## Practice

**29** Match the clauses and write the mixed conditional sentences in your notebook.

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|--|--|
| 1 If you had told me about this problem earlier, | A he probably won't be at the meeting.       |
| 2 If you were a more sensitive person,           | B you could always ring them up.             |
| 3 If they don't contact you soon,                | C his wife would never have left him.        |
| 4 If he hadn't died so young,                    | D you wouldn't have said that to her.        |
| 5 If he didn't work so hard all the time,        | E I would have had them by now.              |
| 6 If the train hadn't been delayed,              | F everything would be all right now.         |
| 7 If he was feeling ill this morning,            | G would you hurry up and get ready?          |
| 8 If you're coming with us,                      | H you wouldn't be so busy this month.        |
| 9 If I really wanted to have children,           | I we would be there by now.                  |
| 10 If you had worked harder last month,          | J I'm sure he'd be a famous musician by now. |

Example:

1F - If you had told me about this problem earlier, everything would be all right now.