

CONDITIONAL TENSES

The Zero Conditional: (if + present simple, ... present simple)

This conditional deals with “real” conditions. Eg. If you heat water to 100 degrees, it boils. If you touch a fire, you get burned.

The First Conditional: (if + present simple, ... will + infinitive)

This conditional deals with likely” situations in the present or future. Eg. If it rains, we'll go for picnic. If I have enough money, I'll buy some new shoes.

The Second Conditional: (if + past simple, ... would + infinitive)

This conditional deals with situations in the present and future that are both unreal and unlikely. Eg. If I met the Queen of England, I would greet her. She would travel all over the world if she were rich. If he were alive, he would guide me.

The Third Conditional: (if + past perfect, ... would + have + past participle)

This conditional deals with hypothetical situations in the past. Eg. If I had gone to bed early, I would have caught the train. If she had studied, she would have passed the exam.