

Conditional sentences in BCS- Pogodbene rečenice- Kondicionalne rečenice

Basic formula: **IF A, THEN B**

The speaker states a condition, and then comments the result.

There are 3 types of conditional sentences in BCS:

1. **real**- the stated result is fully expected to ensue
2. **potential**-there is a possibility, but not certainty that the stated result will come about
3. **hypothetical**- there is no possibility that the stated result could come to pass

The key point in most conditional sentences is the speaker's **SUBJECTIVE** assessment of the probabilities in the discussed situation.

Usage: to soften a force of a statement or request, in various politeness expressions, to describe past repeated action and in clauses of purpose.

Formation:

Conditional mood is a compound verb form. It is composed of the **L-participle** (čitao, pisao, slušao-must agree with the with the verb's subject!) and **the auxiliary derived of the aorist of biti**.

I Aorist of biti (renders English would)

Singular:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. ja bih/ ne bih | I would/ wouldn't |
| 2. ti bi/ne bi | You would/ wouldn't |
| 3. on/ona/ono bi/ne bi | He/she/it would/ wouldn't |

Plural:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Mi bismo/ ne bismo | We would wouldn't |
| 2. Vi biste/ ne biste | You would wouldn't |
| 3. Oni/one/ona bi/ne bi | They would wouldn't |

Conditional:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1.čitao-la-lo bih | 1.čitali bismo |
| 2.čitao-la bi | 2. čitali biste |
| 3.čitao-la-lo bi | 3. Čitali/le/la bi |

I/You/He/She/We/You/They would read.

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Negative form (notice the word order!!!)

Singular

Plural

1. (ja) ne bih čitao-la-lo

1.(mi) ne bismo čitali

2. (ti) ne bi čitao-la-lo

2.(vi) ne biste čitali

3. (on/ona/ono)ne bi čitao-la-lo

3. (oni/one/ona) ne bi čitali/le/la

I/You/He/She/We/You/They wouldn't read.

II Future conditional:

Formation: **Auxiliary of biti** (see the forms below) + **L participle**

Singular

Plural

1 budem čitao/la/lo

1. budemo čitali

2. budeš čitao/la

2. budete čitali

3. bude čitao/la/lo

3. budu čitali/le/la

I/You/He/She/We/You/They would read.

III Past Conditional (almost never used, you don't need to know this, just be aware of it!)

In past conditional the verbal auxiliary is the compound past of biti

Singular forms: masculine: **bio** bih, feminine **bila** bih, neuter **bio** bi (3rd person sg only!!!)

Plural forms: masculine **bili** bismo, feminine **bile** bismo, neuter **bila** bi (3rd person pl only!!!)

1. bio bih čitao/la

1. bili bismo čitali

2. bio bi čitao

2. bili biste čitali

3. bio bi čitao/la/lo

3. bili bi čitali/le/la

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I Real conditions:

Key point: this type always assumes that there is a straightforward **causal connection** usually in the form of prediction. The speaker *fully believes* that **the result** stated in the second clause **will** (or did, or would) **ensue**. This type of sentences are *less grammatically conditional* (in that the **verbs are not usually in conditional mood!!!**)

These sentences are rendered in present with an eye to the future, as well as in the past tense! The verbs here can take any form **except for the FUTURE tense!!!**

Our conditional formula **IF A THEN B** in this type looks like this:

If A (**any tense (except future)**) THEN B (**any tense but conditional mood**)

Conjunctions:

1. **AKO** (if)

Examples: using conditional mode and any other tense (except future). Notice that clause B never uses conditional mode!!!!!!!:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Ako bude padala kiša, onda nećemo ići. | A conditional mode / B future tense |
| 2. Ako bude kišovit dan, nećemo ići u park. | A conditional mode / B future tense |
| 3. Ako <i>pada</i> kiša, nećemo ići. | A present tense / B future tense |
| 4. Ako su <i>ga pozvali</i> , sigurno će doći. | A past tense / B future tense |
| 5. Ako dođeš, dobićeš/dobit ćeš poklon. | A present tense / B future tense |
| If you come you will get a present. | |
| 6. Ako budeš došao, dobićeš/dobit ćeš poklon. | A conditional mode / B future tense |
| If you come you will get a present. | |

2. **KAD** (same as **KADA**) (when)

Kad **budeš** završio studije/studij, postaćeš/ postat' ćeš nastavnik.

A conditional mode / B future tense

When you finish your studies you will become a teacher.

Kad dođeš iz Engleske, razgovaraćemo razgovarat ćemo.

A present tense B future tense

When you come from England we will talk.

3. **Li** (question particle) Always start with the main verb:

1. *Ustanovite li* grešku, molimo vas da nas obavestite.

A present tense / B present tense

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If you figure out the mistake please inform us.

2. *Kupiš li* novi laptop uzimam tvoj stari komjuter/kompjutor.

A present tense/ B present

If you buy a new laptop I am taking your old computer.

Ukoliko ne

(unless) or just

ukoliko

(if)

1. *Ukoliko ne* potpišu ugovor, naredni sastanak neće biti održan.

A present tense/ B future

Unless they sign the agreement the next meeting will not be held.

2. *Ukoliko* stigneš na vreme/vrijeme dobićeš/dobit ćeš poklon.

A present tense/ B future tense

If you arrive on time you will get a present.

3. *Ukoliko* stigneš na vreme/vrijeme dobijaš poklon.

A present tense /B present tense

If you arrive on time you are getting a present.

4. *Ukoliko* budeš stigao na vreme/vrijeme dobićeš/ dobit ćeš poklon

A conditional mood/ B future tense

II Potential conditions:

Potential conditions are those which **may or may not come to pass**. The key point is that **the speaker believes they could possibly come to pass** which is indicated by the presence of the **conditional mood in BOTH clauses** of the sentence. Sentences of this group **are not rendered in past tense** since they imply that something might conceivably still come about. (Notice the striking difference in English where this conditional type is exclusively rendered in past tense; If he asked you nicely would you go)

Conjunctions:

Kad

Here translated as IF!!!

1. Kad **bi** ona bila tu, sve **bi** bilo u redu. / If she **were** here, everything **would** be ok.

2. Kad **bi** on došao ranije, stigli **bismo** na koncert. I he would come sooner we would get to the concert on time.

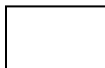
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Ako **If**

Ako **bismo** vas pitali o tome, da li **biste** nam rekli istinu? If we were to ask you about it would you tell us the truth?

Ako **budete** u Čikagu, da li **biste** nas posetili/posjetili? If you are in Chicago would you pay us a visit?

Summary:



Type:	conjunction	IF A	Then B
Potential condition	Kad, Ako	conditional	conditional

III Unreal conditions:

There are 2 types:

1. **Former potential condition**- it *was realizable* at one point *but not any more*, because the *time frame* for its potential fulfillment *has run out*.
2. **Never was potential**, but is rather **imaginary, hypothetical condition** which speaker has constructed in order to make a rhetorical point.

Both types mark the **unreality of the condition** by using the conjunction DA+ present/past tense in the first clause, and the conditional mood in the second (followed by either present or past tense).

Formula DA (translated as **IF**) + conditional mood

Former potential condition: (first type) :

Formula **DA + verb in the past tense + conditional mood (second clause)**

Examples: DA+ past tense +conditional mood +the verb that follows conditional

1. **Da** si mi rekla o čemu se radi, **ostala bih** da ti pomognem. If you told me what was that about I would stay to help you.
2. **Da** sam bio na tvom mestu/mjestu, **ne bih** to uradio/učinio.
If I were in your place I wouldn't do that.

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3. **Da** je ona bila tu, sve **bi** bilo u redu.
If she were here everything would be alright.

Hypothetical, Imaginary Conditional (second type)

Formula: **Da** + **present tense** /**past tense** + conditional mood

Examples:

1. Da je čarobnjak, mogao bi to da uradi/učini. (DA+present+conditional)

If he were a wizard he could do that.

2. Da imam krila, letela/letjela bih kao ptica. (DA+present+conditional)

If I had wings I would fly like a bird.

3. Da nije bilo tebe, nikada ne bismo uspeli/uspjeli. (DA+past+conditional)

If it weren't for you we would never succeed.

Summary:

Type: Unreal condition	conjunction DA	IF A present or past	Then B conditional
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Other Types of Conditional:

The Conditional of Politeness:

A) Toned-Down Statements

The conditional is often used to soften the force of a verb in particular speech situations (usage similar to English.)

Compare the statements used in Direct, rather forceful way to those written in Conditional Mood (Toned-Down):

Direct:

a) I say you are wrong!
Kažem da niste u pravu!

b) Will you explain your position?
Hoćete li da objasnite svoj stav?

Conditional:

I **would** say you **might be** wrong.
Rekao **bih** da niste u pravu.

Would you explain your position?
Da li **biste** objasnili svoj stav?

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- | | |
|--|---|
| c) It's better to do it that way.
Bolje je tako raditi. | It would be better to do it that way.
Bilo bi bolje tako raditi. |
| d) You mustn't turn right.
Ne treba da skreneš desno. | You shouldn't turn right.
Ne bi trebalo da skreneš desno. |

B) Politeness Formulas

- a) I would be ever so grateful to you if you would explain that to me.
Bila bih vam itekako zahvalna **kad biste** mi to objasnili.
- b) Would you like something to drink?
Biste li nešto popili? Or more frequent: Da li biste nešto popili?
- c) I would like a beer, please.
Ja **bih** pivo, molim. Or Ja **bih** htela/htjela pivo, molim vas.
- d) I would prefer to have a little cake.
Radije **bih** malo kolača.
- e) Would you be so kind as to...
Biste li bili tako ljubazni da... Or more frequent: Da **li biste** bili tako ljubazni da...

The conditional of repetition:

If the speaker wants to emphasize the repetition then the verbs can be placed in conditional mode. The BSC conditional of repetition often occurs in subordinate clauses with the conjunctions **kad god** (whenever), **gde god/ gdje god, kud god** (wherever) and the like.

Examples:

1. Kad god i gde/gdje god bi me (on) video/vidio, čudno bi se osmehivao/osmjehivao.
2. Kud god bi kralj išao, svi bi mu se klanjali (everyone would bow).
3. Obično bi (on) dolazio na vreme/vrijeme, a ponekad bi kasnio/zadocnio.
4. Čim bi (ona) završila posao, uzela bi da čita knjigu.

The conditional of purpose:

The idea of purpose is expressed with the conjunction DA followed by either the present tense or the conditional mode (conditional puts more focus on the goal!). English

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equivalent would be **IN ORDER TO**. Two other conjunctions can be used with the conditional in roughly the same meaning: **KAKO** and **Ne+LI**.

Examples:

DA+ Conditional – IN ORDER TO

a) **Da bi** stvarno/zbilja naučio jedan jezik, čovek/ čovjek mora da ide u zemlju gde/gdje se taj jezik govori.

In order to really learn a language, one has to go to the country where they speak that language.

b) Ova knjiga mi treba **da bih** večeras učila sa prijateljima.

I need this book in order to study with my friends this evening.

KAKO+ Conditional – IN ORDER TO

a) Potrčao je za njim **kako bi** mu tajnu šapnuo u uvo/uho.

He ran off after him in order to whisper the secret in his ear.

b) Otišao je u selo **kako bi** pomogao babi i dedi/djedu.

He went to the village so in order to help his grandma and grandpa.

NE+ Conditional+ LI – IN ORDER TO

a) Vikao je na sav glas ne bi li ga čuli.

He shouted at the top of his lungs so they would hear.

b) Svuda/svudgje sam ga tražio ne bi li ga našao.

I looked for him everywhere in order to find him.

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Kondicionalne rečenice-vežbanja/vježbanja:

I Translate these sentences into BCS using conditional mood:

1. If you wanted to go, why didn't you say so.

2. Call me if he gets in on time.

3. If such women ever did attract (privlačiti) him, he's long since (odavno) bored by them.

4. If you have so much money you can lend me a hundred dollars.

5. If that is a ring, then it must be round (okrugao).

6. It would be good if I knew a little about that.

7. If I had been in your shoes (na tvom mestu/mjestu), I would not have done that.

8. Oh, how I wish I were home!

9. If I had the time and money, I'd go on a trip.

10. What would you like most of all?

II Put the verbs in parenthesis in the proper form so that the sentences reflect conditional mood:

1. Da mogu, _____ ti nešto. (kupiti)

2. Kad _____, mi _____ u bioskop/kino. (doći, ići)

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3. Ako mi _____sada _____da uradim ovo, ja _____ ti _____ moj automobil da voziš. (pomoći, dati)
4. Da sam profesor, ja _____dobar prema učenicima. (biti)
5. Ako _____da mi pomognete, ja _____vam _____zahvalan. (moći, biti)
6. Kad već pereš kosu, _____i da se umiješ. (moći)
7. Da sam ranije shvatio da si ti njegova sestra, ja _____ti _____zdravo. (reći)
8. Ako _____mi oni _____pismo, _____ga na sto/stol. (poslati, staviti)

III Make the following sentences conditional:

1. _____kafu/kavu s tobom da nisam u velikoj žurbi. (popiti)
2. Ako ja _____kartu, _____na koncert. (dobiti, ići)
3. Kad (ja) _____vremena, _____fudbal/nogomet. (imati, igrati)
4. Da _____sada ja bolesna ne _____. (biti, raditi)
5. Kad mi _____povišicu, možda _____da radim/ raditi. (ponuditi, nastaviti)
6. _____vas nešto ako mi dozvolite. (pitati)
7. Da _____čuda, ja _____u njih _____. (postojati, verovati/vjerovati)
8. Da ima novac moja porodica/obitelj _____na Jadransko more. (putovati)
9. Obično (on) _____na vreme/vrijeme, samo ponekad _____.(dolaziti, kasniti/zadocniti)
10. Ti si moja mala lepotica /ljepotica često _____joj _____tata. (govoriti)
11. On ju je zvao kako _____joj _____glas. (čuti)
12. Pišem vam na engleskom da _____me _____. (razumeti/razumjeti)