

## LANGUAGE WORK Revision: *if*-sentences

Study these uses of *if*-sentences.

### Action and effect

We can use an *if*-sentence to link an action and its effect. For example:

- 1 If you click on that [action], that'll just compact your C drive [effect].
- 2 If you click on that [action], that opens it up and shows you all your folders [effect].

The action is in the Present simple and the effect is in the Present simple or described using *will*, *can*, or *may* depending how certain it is to follow.

### Polite instructions

We use the action part of *if*-sentences, especially in spoken English, to give instructions in a polite way. The effect part is assumed.

- 3 If you bring your cursor down to the very bottom [you'll find the Start button].
- 4 If you just hit Enter [that will activate the program].

### Imagined action and effect

We can use an *if*-sentence to describe the possible effect of an imagined action. For example:

- 5 If you spilled coffee on your keyboard [imagined action], you could damage it [possible effect].
- 6 If there were no other folders there [imagined action], you wouldn't have a little box in there [possible effect].

To show this describes imagined, not real, events, the action is in the Past simple and the effect is described using *would*, *could*, and *might* depending how certain it is to follow.

- 5 Match the actions in Column A with appropriate effects from Column B. Then join each action and effect using an *if*-sentence.

#### Column A

- 1 you press Print Screen
- 2 you press Ctrl + Alt + Del in Windows XP
- 3 you added more memory
- 4 you installed a modem
- 5 you used a better search engine
- 6 you forget to save regularly
- 7 you hold down the mouse button over an icon
- 8 you used an LCD display

#### Column B

- a you can drag it across the screen
- b it would speed up the computer
- c you may lose data
- d you would have more space at your desk
- e you would be able to connect to a telephone line
- f you can make a copy of the screen
- g you would find more relevant results
- h it displays the Windows security dialog box

- 6 Describe the effects of these actions using an *if*-sentence.

- 1 you don't virus-check floppies
- 2 there was a power cut while you were using your computer
- 3 you install a faster processor
- 4 you forgot your password
- 5 you press the delete key
- 6 you use a search engine
- 7 you double-click on an icon
- 8 you use power-saving options

## WORD STUDY

- 7 **Noun + Noun compounds** Match each word from Column A with its partner from Column B to make a computing term.

Column A	Column B
1 barcode	a tray
2 mainframe	b program
3 laser	c bus
4 expansion	d pane
5 search	e computer
6 control	f reader
7 supervisor	g bar
8 task	h card
9 system	i engine
10 explorer	j printer