

IF + CONDITION, + RESULT

PRESENT SIMPLE + PRESENT SIMPLE

If you leave ice in the sun, it melts.



IF



CONDITION



RESULT



Zero conditionals are used for facts that are generally true and do not change.

It refers to a general situation that always happens if a condition is met.

CONDITION

RESULT

IF CLAUSE, +

MAIN CLAUSE

If you stand in the rain, you get wet.

COMMA
IS NECESSARY

RESULT

CONDITION

MAIN CLAUSE +

IF CLAUSE

You get wet if you stand in the rain.

NO
COMMA

PRESENT SIMPLE

+

FUTURE SIMPLE

 If we work hard, we will finish the project on time.



The **first conditional** is used to express a real or very probable situation in the future. It refers to things that will possibly happen in the future if a condition is met.

The **first conditional** is common when we are talking about *possible plans, promises, warnings, threats* or for *persuading* someone.

CONDITION

RESULT


PRESENT SIMPLE

+

FUTURE SIMPLE

 If I go to Italy next week for work, I'll visit the Colosseum.

 If I have time tomorrow, I will help you.

 If you touch that wire, you will get an electric shock.



87a Match the two parts of the zero conditional sentences.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| 0 | Water turns into steam | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | c | if you want cheap air tickets. |
| 1 | If you want to visit the USA, | <input type="checkbox"/> | b | if you have a good Internet connection. |
| 2 | You have to book early | <input type="checkbox"/> | c | when you heat it to 100°C. |
| 3 | When babies are hungry, | <input type="checkbox"/> | d | if you drive fast. |
| 4 | I get cold feet | <input type="checkbox"/> | e | they cry. |
| 5 | Cars use more petrol | <input type="checkbox"/> | f | if I don't wear woollen socks in winter. |
| 6 | Downloading music is quick | <input type="checkbox"/> | g | you need a visa. |

87b Complete the zero conditional sentences. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 0 When they *go* on holiday, a neighbour *feeds* their cat. (go, feed)
- 1 He early when he study a lot. (get up, have to)
- 2 If I late, I usually to the college. (not be, walk)
- 3 What if you problems getting to sleep? (you / do, have)
- 4 If James to see her, she the door. (come, not answer)
- 5 When I advice, I usually to my older brother. (need, talk)
- 6 your mobile when you in a restaurant? (you / turn off, be)



88a Circle the correct answer.

- 0 I call / 'll call you if the train arrives / will arrive late.
- 1 Dr Lee *doesn't* / *can't* see you today if you *don't* / *won't* have an appointment.
- 2 If we *walk* / *'ll walk* faster, we *get* / *'ll get* to the cinema on time.
- 3 If you *go* / *'ll go* to the supermarket, *buy* / *you buy* some milk.
- 4 They *get* / *won't get* lost if they *take* / *'ll take* a map with them.
- 5 If you *see* / *will see* a snake, you *don't* / *mustn't* touch it!
- 6 *Don't* / *You don't* tell John where I am if he *asks* / *'ll ask* you.
- 7 We *catch* / *'ll catch* the last bus home if we *hurry* / *'ll hurry*.
- 8 If he *doesn't tell* / *not tell* her the truth, she *might be* / *is* very angry.

88b Complete the conversation. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- A: Do you think Tina will be OK in Paris?
- B: I'm sure she (0) 'll be (be) happy if she (1) (make) friends quickly and if she (2) (feel) lonely at first, she (3) (can / phone) us.
- C: She's going soon. If we (4) (not organise) a party now, it (5) (might / be) too late.
- D: She (6) (be) disappointed if she (7) (not get) a present from us. If we all (8) (give) some money, we (9) (can / get) something nice.
- A: If you (10) (see) her, (11) (ask) her if there's anything she needs, but (12) (not mention) the party. Then it'll be a surprise!

88c Write first conditional questions.

- 0 I / get into / the concert / if / I / not buy / a ticket in advance?
Will I get into the concert if I don't buy a ticket in advance?
.....
- 1 if / I / phone / you at six o'clock / you / be / at home?
.....
- 2 what / we / do / if / the restaurant / not serve / vegetarian food?
.....
- 3 Jean / be / angry / if / we / not arrive / on time?
.....
- 4 if / I / get / a laptop / where / I / should / buy / it?
.....
- 5 who / you / go / on holiday with / if / you / win / the competition?
.....
- 6 if / you / go away / this weekend / I / can / have / a party in the flat?
.....

88d Match the questions in 88c with the answers.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| a No, she won't. | <input type="checkbox"/> | e They do. I checked. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b Yes, I will. | <input type="checkbox"/> | f On the Internet. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c Probably with David. | <input type="checkbox"/> | g No, you won't. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| d No, you can't! | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

88e Complete the conversation. Use the correct form of the verbs in the box.

book do find go look might / find
not be able to / stay not know spend

- A: Where shall we go this summer?
B: I'd like to go to New York, but it's really expensive. If we (0)*go*..... there, we (1) very long. How about going round Europe by train?
A: No way! If we (2) that, we (3) more time travelling than visiting places.
B: What do you suggest?
A: Let me search the Internet. If I (4) online, you never know, I (5) a cheap flight to somewhere really exciting.
B: But how (6) you a cheap flight if you (7) where we're going?
A: There are websites that have special offers.
B: Well, if you see two cheap flights to New York, (8) them! Because that's where I want to go.

89 unless

- We can use *unless* in first conditional sentences to mean *if not*: *Your English won't get better unless you study more.* (Your English won't get better if you don't study more.)
- We usually use *unless* with an affirmative verb: *They won't let you into the club unless you wear a tie.*

PRACTICE

89a Complete the sentences. Use *if* or *unless*.

- 0 I won't go to university this year *unless* I can study medicine.
- 1 I won't be able to study medicine I get good exam results.
- 2 I don't get good exam results, I'll take my exams again next year.
- 3 I'll have time to go travelling I don't go to university.
- 4 But I work this summer, I won't have enough money to go travelling.
- 5 I won't find a summer job I start looking for one soon.
- 6 I contact my uncle, he might give me a job in his company.
- 7 My uncle won't give me a job I do well at school.
- 8 But I do well at school, I'll have good exam results and I won't need a job!

89b Re-write the sentences.

- 0 She won't believe you if you don't tell her the truth.
She won't believe you unless *you tell her the truth*
- 1 I won't come to the barbecue if you don't invite my boyfriend as well.
I won't come to the barbecue unless
- 2 Unless we get to the airport early, we won't get a window seat on the plane.
If, we won't get a window seat on the plane.
- 3 Frozen food can be bad for you unless you cook it very well.
Frozen food can be bad for you if
- 4 If he doesn't listen to people, he'll never have many friends.
Unless, he'll never have many friends.
- 5 That plant will die if she doesn't water it more often.
That plant will die unless
- 6 If you don't phone to say sorry, Helen will never forgive you.
Unless, Helen will never forgive you.
- 7 We'll never finish unless we get some help.
We'll never finish if

97 Zero Conditional and First Conditional

1 Look at this:

If + PRESENT SIMPLE + PRESENT SIMPLE
 If I eat too much, I feel bad.

(= Every time I eat too much, I feel bad.)

We use this structure (if + Present Simple + Present Simple) for facts that are generally true. This structure is called the Zero Conditional:

If I don't get enough sleep, I feel tired.

(= Every time I don't get enough sleep, I feel tired.)

If you want to become a doctor, you have to study hard. (= Anyone who wants to become a doctor has to study hard.)

2 We can say the same thing by reversing the two parts of the sentence:

PRESENT SIMPLE + if + PRESENT SIMPLE
 I feel bad if I eat too much.

Note that we do not use a comma (,) before if.

3 Now look at this:

If + PRESENT SIMPLE + WILL/WON'T
 If I'm late, she'll be angry.

(= Perhaps I will be late; then she'll be angry.)

We use this structure (if + Present Simple + will/won't) to talk about things that may happen in the future. The verb after if is Present Simple, but we use it for a possible future action or situation; we use will/won't + verb for the result. This structure is called the First Conditional:

FUTURE POSSIBILITY + RESULT
 If we don't hurry, we won't finish.

4 We can reverse the order:

She'll be angry if I'm late.

We won't finish if we don't hurry.

5 We do not use will/won't after if:

NOT ~~*If I will be late, she'll be angry.*~~

Practice

A Put these facts about various types of people into sentences with *if + Present Simple + Present Simple*. Make *you* the subject of both parts of the sentence.

- ▶ Doctors treat people who are ill.

If you're a doctor, you treat people who are ill.

- 1 Vegetarians don't eat meat.

If you're a vegetarian,

- 2 People who live in a hot country don't like cold weather.

If you live

- 3 Teachers have to work very hard.

If you're a teacher,

- 4 People who do a lot of exercise stay fit and healthy.

If you

- 5 Mechanics understand engines.

If you're a

- 6 People who read newspapers know what's happening in the world.

If you

B Complete these sentences with *if + Present Simple + will/won't*, using the words in brackets (). Sometimes you do not need to change the words in brackets.

- ▶ If it rains..... (it/rain), we won't go..... (we/not/go) out.
- 1 If (the weather/be) nice tomorrow, (we/drive) to the coast.
 - 2 If (she/post) the letter now, (they/receive) it tomorrow.
 - 3 (Fiona/be) angry if (John/arrive) late again.
 - 4 (I/go) to their party if (I/have) enough time.
 - 5 If (she/not/pass) this exam, (she/not/get) the job that she wants.
 - 6 (you/learn) a lot if (you/take) this course.
 - 7 If (I/get) a ticket, (I/go) to the concert.
 - 8 (I/buy) that camera if (it/not/cost) too much.
 - 9 If (you/run) very fast, (you/catch) the bus.
 - 10 (I/go) to the doctor's if (I/not/feel) better tomorrow.
 - 11 If (they/win) this game, (they/be) the champions.

C Complete the dialogues with the Present Simple or *will/won't* forms of the words in brackets (). Sometimes you do not need to change the words in brackets.

- ▶ A: We must be at the airport at two o'clock.
B: Well, if we take..... (we/take) a taxi at one o'clock, we won't be..... (we/not/be) late.
- 1 A: I'd like a newspaper.
B: Well, (I/buy) one for you if (I/go) to the shop later.
 - 2 A: Has John phoned yet?
B: No, and if (he/not/phone) this afternoon, (I/phone) him this evening.
 - 3 A: Is Fiona there, please?
B: No, but if (you/want) to leave a message, (I/give) it to her.
 - 4 A: Is Tim going to pass his exam?
B: Well, (he/fail) if (he/not/work) harder.
 - 5 A: Could I have some information about this year's concerts, please?
B: Yes, if (you/fill in) this form, (I/send) it to you in the post.