



FIRST AND SECOND CONDITIONAL



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Expemo code:
1IC8-J1LE-DAA



1

Presentation

When we talk about possible or hypothetical situations with **If ...**, we can use a first conditional or second conditional structure. Study the table below.

Structure	Examples and use
<p>First conditional</p> <p><i>If I do ..., I'll (= I will) ...</i> Instead of will, we can use other modal verbs, e.g. can, might, may, must, should.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>According to the weather forecast, it might rain tonight.</i> • <i>If it rains, I'll stay at home.</i> <p>We use the first conditional when there is a real possibility that something will happen in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>If I don't call you tonight, you can call me.</i> • <i>Will you wait for me if I am late?</i>
<p>Second conditional</p> <p><i>If I did ..., I'd (= I would) ...</i> Instead of would, we can use could or might.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>At the moment, it's raining. If it was sunny, I'd go out.</i> <p>We use the second conditional when we imagine a situation or when there is very little or no possibility that something will happen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>What would you do if you found a lot of money in the street?</i> • <i>If it wasn't dark outside, we could go out.</i>



2

Practice 1

Put the verb in the correct form to complete each sentence.

1. If global warming continues, temperatures will rise (rise) even higher.
2. What would you do if you _____ (win) a million dollars?
3. If people stopped using cars completely, there _____ (be) much less pollution.
4. When it _____ (rain) again, I won't forget to bring my umbrella.
5. If I spoke English fluently, I _____ (not/need) to take lessons.
6. If Siberia _____ (not/be) so cold, I'd go there in winter.
7. Tom will be at the party tonight. If I see him, I _____ (say) hello.
8. If it _____ (not/rain) so much in England, you wouldn't see so many umbrellas.
9. I _____ (call) you when I get home.
10. Where _____ (you/live) when you move out of your flat?
11. If you _____ (can) choose any company, which company would you like to work for?





3

Practice 2

Study each situation and complete the sentence below. Decide whether to use a first or second conditional structure.

1. *According to the weather forecast, there is a chance of snow tomorrow.* → If it _____ (snow), I _____ (need) to buy a pair of gloves.
2. *Patrick is deciding whether to go to France or Spain on his next holiday.* → If Patrick _____ (go) to Spain, he _____ (be) very satisfied.
3. *John works 12 hours a day.* → If John _____ (not/be) so busy, he _____ (have) more time for his family.
4. *Kate is out of work, but she goes shopping every day.* → If Kate _____ (continue) to go shopping, she _____ (run out) of money.
5. *It is a sunny day with clear blue skies.* → If it _____ (rain), I _____ (need) an umbrella.
6. *Anne's boss is very demanding.* → If Anne's boss _____ (not/be) so demanding, she _____ (not/be) so stressed.
7. *Daniel has an exam tomorrow.* → If Daniel _____ (pass) his exam, he _____ (celebrate) with his friends.
8. *Fabio and Carlo are best friends.* → If Fabio and Carlo _____ (not/be) best friends, they probably _____ (not/be) living together.
9. *The Olympic Games are held every four years.* → If the Olympics _____ (be) held every year, they _____ (not/be) so interesting.



4 Practice 3

Look at the situations below. Decide if they are impossible/hypothetical or possible and form a conditional sentence for each one. Where possible, try to use other modal verbs instead of will or would, for example *can, could, might, may, should, must*.

Examples:

If it rains this weekend, I may not go out.
If I had a holiday next week, I might go to Portugal.

1. You will have a holiday next week.

2. You speak English fluently.

3. You will win the lottery.

4. Your country will win the football World Cup.

5. You will go out tonight with some friends.

6. You live in another country.

7. You can fly.

8. You will meet the president of your country.

9. You will be late for your next lesson.

10. You will go to bed later than usual tonight.

**5 Practice 4**

Look at the sentences below and decide if they are hypothetical (H) or possible (P).

1. If I got a raise, I might buy a sports car. _____
2. I should go out for a walk if it stops raining soon. _____
3. If I get time off for the holidays, I'll go to the seaside. _____
4. If I won the lottery, I could pay off my mortgage. _____
5. If I spoke German, I might go to Berlin next month. _____
6. You should come visit if you ever are in the area! _____
7. If I could dance, I might compete in a dancing tournament. _____
8. If she finishes work by 7, she will go see a movie afterwards. _____

6 Speaking

Look at the prompts below and discuss them in pairs or small groups.

First Conditional Cue Cards (Possible Situations)

Weather Plans

1. If it rains tomorrow, what will you do?
2. If it's sunny this weekend, where will you go?

Exam Results

1. If you pass your exams, how will you celebrate?
2. If you fail your exams, what will you do?



Job Interview

1. If you get the job, how will your life change?
2. If you don't get the job, what will your next step be?

Holiday Plans

1. If you have enough money, where will you go on holiday?
2. If your holiday gets cancelled, what will you do instead?

Health and Fitness

1. If you start exercising regularly, how will you feel?
2. If you don't change your diet, what will happen to your health?

Learning a New Skill

1. If you learn a new language, how will it benefit you?
2. If you don't practise, what will happen to your progress?

Second Conditional Cue Cards (Imaginary Situations)

Winning the Lottery

1. If you won the lottery, what would you buy?
2. If you had a million pounds, how would you spend it?



Superpowers

1. If you could have any superpower, what would it be?
2. If you were invisible for a day, what would you do?

Time Travel

1. If you could travel back in time, where would you go?
2. If you could meet any historical figure, who would it be?

Ideal Job

1. If you could choose any job in the world, what would it be?
2. If you didn't have to work, how would you spend your time?

World Changes

1. If you were the leader of your country, what changes would you make?
2. If you could solve one global issue, what would it be?

Dream House

1. If you could live anywhere in the world, where would it be?
2. If you designed your own house, what would it look like?