

Unit 4

Language Development

6.1 IF CONDITIONALS

Conditional Sentences are also known as Conditional clauses or If Clauses. They are used to express that the action in the main clause (without, if) can only take place if a certain condition (in the clause with if) is fulfilled. There are three types of Conditional Sentences

Conditional Sentence type	usages	If clause	Main clause
Type 1	A possible condition and its probable result	Simple present	Simple future
Type 2	A hypothetical condition and its probable result	Simple past	Present conditional or Present continuous conditional
Type 3	An unreal past condition and its probable result in the past	Past perfect	Perfect conditional

If Clause **Type I**

If+ simple present, will - future

Example: **If I find her address, I will send her an invitation.**

- The main clause can also be at the beginning of the sentence. (don't use comma in this case)

Eg: I will send her an invitation if I find her address.

- Main clause and/ or if clause might be negative.

Eg: If I don't see him this afternoon, I will phone him in the evening.

Use: This type refer to future. An action in the future will only happen if a certain condition is fulfilled by that time. We don't know for sure whether the condition actually will be fulfilled or not, but the condition seems rather realistic- so we think it is likely to happen.

EXCERCISES:

1. If Caroline and Sue **prepare** the salad, Philip **will decorate** the house.
2. If Sue **cuts** the onions for the salad, Caroline **will peel** the mushroom.
3. Jane **will Hoover** the sitting room if Aaron and Tin **move** the furniture.
4. If Bob **tidies** up the kitchen, Anita **will clean** the room.
5. Alan **will mix** the drinks if Jane **gives** him some of her cocktail recipes.

If Clause **Type II**

If + simple past, main clause with conditional I (=would + infinitive)
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Example: **If I found her address, I would send her an invitation.**

I would send her an invitation if I found her address. (Main clause in the beginning)

If I had a lot of money, I wouldn't stay here. (Main clause is negative)

- In IF clauses type 2, we usually use 'were'- even if the pronoun is I, he, she or it.

- Eg: If I were you, I would not do this.

Use: This type 2 refer to situations in the present. An action could happen if the present situation were different. I don't really expect the situation to change, however. I imagine, what would happen if”

EXCERCISES:

Complete the conditional type 2 by putting the verbs into the correct form. Use conditional 1 with would in the main clause.

1. If we (have) **had** a yacht, we (sail) **would sail** the seven sea.
2. If he (have) **had** more time, he (learn) **would learn** karate.
3. If they (tell) **told** their father, he (be) **would be** very angry.
4. She (spend) **would spend** a year in the USA if it (be) **were** easier to get a green card.
5. We (help) **would help** you if we (know) **knew** how.
6. She (not/ talk) **would not talk** to you if she (be) **were mad** at you.

If Clause **Type III**

If + past perfect, main clause with conditional II
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Example: **If I had found her address, I would have sent her an invitation.**

I would have sent her an invitation if I had found her address. (Main clause in the beginning)

If I hadn't studied, I wouldn't have passed my exams. (Main clause is negative)

Use: This type 3 refer to situations in the past. An action would have happened in the past if a certain condition has been fulfilled. Things were different then, however. We just imagine, what would have happened if the situation had been fulfilled.

EXERCISES:

Complete the conditional sentences (type 3) by putting the verbs into the correct form.

Use conditional 2 with would in the main clause.

1. If you (study) **had studied** for the test, you would have passed it.
2. If you (ask) **asked me**, I would have helped you.
3. If we (go) **went** to the cinema, she would have seen my friend Jacob.
4. If you (speak) **have spoken** English, she would have understood.
5. If they (listen) **had listened** to me, we would have been home earlier.

EXERCISES:

1. If he had practiced well, he would have got the prize.
2. If the weather is good, I will go to temple.
3. If I were a bird, I would fly.
4. If she had money, she would buy for you.
5. If you go fast, you will catch the train.
6. If I had started earlier, I would have met you at the station.
7. If you treat her well, she will obey you.
8. If the weather is rough, we will stay at home.
9. If there is a power break down, we cannot watch TV.
10. If the engine is serviced regularly it will run smoothly.