

# If Clauses

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

YEAR 9

## Mastering Conditionals: From Facts to Dreams

Conditionals are the secret to talking about **what happens**, **what could happen**, and **what we dream of**. We use them all the time — in science, in daily life, and in our wildest imaginations.

- 📌 By the end of this lesson, you will confidently use Zero, First, and Second Conditionals, plus a powerful word called **unless**.



# Laws of the Universe

We use the **Zero Conditional** to talk about **facts**, **scientific truths**, and **personal habits**. The result is 100% real — it always happens.

**Structure: If + Present Simple, Present Simple**

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## Facts & Science

**If** you heat ice, it melts.

**If** you mix red and blue, you get purple.

## Habits & Routines

**If** it rains, the grass gets wet.

**If** I am tired, I go to bed early.

# Future Possibilities

Use the **First Conditional** to talk about **likely future outcomes**. The condition is realistic — it could genuinely happen.

**Structure: If + Present Simple, Will + Verb**

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## Plans & Consequences

**If** you study hard, you will pass the exam.

**If** it rains later, we will stay home.

## Real-World Scenarios

**If** he invites me, I will go to the party.

**If** you don't hurry, you will miss the bus.

# First Conditional Exercises

Can you master Zero & First Conditionals? Fill in the blanks with the correct tense!

1. 🌡️ If you \_\_\_\_\_ (heat) water to 100°C, it \_\_\_\_\_ (boil).

2. 🌱 If plants \_\_\_\_\_ (not get) sunlight, they \_\_\_\_\_ (die).

3. 😴 If people \_\_\_\_\_ (not sleep) enough, they \_\_\_\_\_ (feel) tired.

4. 📖 If she \_\_\_\_\_ (study) every day, she \_\_\_\_\_ (pass) the exam.

5. ☁️ If it \_\_\_\_\_ (rain) tomorrow, we \_\_\_\_\_ (cancel) the picnic.

6. ✈️ If they \_\_\_\_\_ (save) enough money, they \_\_\_\_\_ (travel) to Japan.

# Hypothetical Worlds

Use the **Second Conditional** for **imaginary or unlikely situations**. We dream, we wonder, we explore "what if?"

**Structure: If + Past Simple, Would + Verb**

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## Dreams & Wishes

**If** I had a lot of money, I would buy a boat.

**If** we won the lottery, we would travel the world.

## Advice & Imagination

**If** I were you, I would study more.

**If** he lived in London, he would speak English every day.



Tip: In the Second Conditional, we often use **were** instead of **was** for all subjects — "If I were you..."

PRACTICE TIME

# Second Conditional Exercises

Time to dream! Put the verbs into the correct tense for imaginary situations.

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1. If I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a bird, I  
\_\_\_\_\_ (fly) over the ocean.

2. If he \_\_\_\_\_ (have) more  
time, he \_\_\_\_\_ (learn) the  
guitar.

3. If we \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in space,  
we \_\_\_\_\_ (see) stars every day.

4. If she \_\_\_\_\_ (know) the answer, she \_\_\_\_\_  
(tell) us.

5. If they \_\_\_\_\_ (come) to the party, they  
\_\_\_\_\_ (have) a great time.

# Mixed Conditionals Challenge

Which conditional fits? Choose between Zero, First, and Second to complete each sentence correctly.

	If	+	Result	Type	Your Answer
1	it (be) sunny	→	I ___ to the park	?	_____
2	she (study)	→	she will pass	?	_____
3	I (be) rich	→	I would travel	?	_____
4	water (reach) 100°C	→	it boils	?	_____
5	you (not listen)	→	you won't understand	?	_____

# The **Unless** Rule

**Unless** means exactly the same as **if not**. We use it to say that something will happen only if something else doesn't happen. It makes your sentences sound stronger and more direct.

1

## Consequence

**Unless** you study, you won't pass.

2

## Plans

**Unless** it rains, we will play outside.

3

## Condition

I won't go **unless** you come with me.

4

## Urgency

You will be late **unless** you leave now.



UNLESS...

YOUR TURN

## Unless Practice

Rewrite each sentence using **unless**. Remember: unless replaces if not.



1. If you don't hurry, you will miss the train.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ you hurry, you will miss the train.



2. If she doesn't practice, she won't improve.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ she practices, she won't improve.



3. If you don't eat, you will be hungry.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ you eat, you will be hungry.



4. If he doesn't call, I will be worried.

→ \_\_\_\_\_ he calls, I will be worried.



Bonus: Can you write your own sentence using **unless**?

CONCLUSION

## Use Your Words to Change Your World

Conditionals are powerful tools. They let you describe reality, plan for tomorrow, and dream without limits. Keep practising to unlock your full fluency!

Zero

Use to describe reality and facts that are always true.

First

Use to plan for the future and likely outcomes.

Second

Use to imagine new possibilities and hypotheticals.

🔥 Unless you practise, you won't improve — so go out there and SHINE! 🚀 ✨