

Activity: Conditionals (0, 1 & 2)

Level: B2 (Upper intermediate) / Cambridge: First

Conditionals

Conjunctions

Conjunctions are linking words. Common subordinating conjunctions are: *after, (al)though, as, before, if, since, that, until, when, whereas, while, once, so, as soon as, provided that*. When a clause follows these conjunctions, it becomes a subordinate clause, which needs a main clause to make a complete sentence.

1. **If** → We'll have the party in the garden **if** the weather's good.
2. **Unless** → **Unless** you call me to say you're not coming, I'll see you at the theatre.
3. **As long as** (= if) → You can have a dog **as long as** you promise to take care of it.
4. **Provided (that)** (= only if / strong condition) → Schoolchildren are allowed to work during their holidays **provided that** strict safety measures are taken.

Conditional Zero

FORM: **If (conjunction)** + SIMPLE PRESENT + , SIMPLE PRESENT

- Things that are always true:

People **tend** to get annoyed if you **shout** at them.
If parents **are** always late, it **sets** a bad example for their children.

- Scientific facts:

If water **boils**, it **evaporates**.
You **get** purple if you **mix** red and blue.



First Conditional

FORM: **If (conjunction) + SIMPLE PRESENT + , WILL/MIGHT/CAN (present modal verb)**

- Future condition which is possible or likely:

If he *gets* a job in Liverpool, he'll *need* to buy a car.

If Sheila *rings*, I *might ask* her to come over for dinner.

We'll *take* the children to the park *as long as* the weather is good enough.

Most wild animals *won't* attack *unless* they *are* provoked.

You *can* have an ice cream *provided (that)* you *behave* well.

Second Conditional

FORM: **If (conjunction) + SIMPLE PAST + , SHOULD/WOULD/MIGHT/COULD (modal verb with future-in-the-past meaning)**

- Future condition which is imaginary, contrary to the facts, impossible or improbable/unlikely OR to give advice:

If there *were* more buses, we *would* leave the car at home.

(you think it's unlikely that there will be more buses)

I *would* go for a walk if it *wasn't* so cold.

If I *was* as rich as Bill Gates, I *wouldn't* work any longer.

She *could* go to the concert if you *gave* her your ticket.

We *might* buy a larger house if we *had* more money.

I *wouldn't* speak to the headmaster like that if I *were* you. (= giving advice, it's also imaginary & impossible)



Activities

Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. I _____ (enjoy) shopping if I could afford everything I want.
2. If the weather doesn't get better, we _____ (not-have) our picnic.
3. I always visit museums if I _____ (be) ever in a new city.
4. We'll have a party in the garden as long as it _____ (not-rain).
5. If you _____ (owe) a friend money, you must pay it back immediately. It's the right thing to do.
6. If you asked nicely, he _____ (say) yes. He's an understanding person.
7. You can drive a car provided that you _____ (have) a valid licence.
8. Unless you book in advance, you _____ (not-find) a room at this time of the year.
9. We'll miss our flight unless you _____ (hurry up).
10. I would see a doctor about that mole if I _____ (be) you. You need to have it checked!
11. If a lawyer reads the document, we _____ (see) if we've missed anything important.
12. If you decided to take the exam, you _____ (have) to register by 31 March.



Keys

1. would enjoy
2. won't have
3. am / 'm
4. doesn't rain
5. owe
6. would say
7. have
8. won't find
9. hurry up
10. were
11. will see
12. would have