

CONDITIONALS

If clause = hypothesis Main clause = result clause

ZERO CONDITIONAL

IF + PRESENT SIMPLE + PRESENT SIMPLE

If you heat ice, it melts.

Ice melts if you heat it.

Used to talk about things that are generally true, situations that don't change or scientific facts.

Always true

FIRST CONDITIONAL

IF + PRESENT SIMPLE + FUTURE SIMPLE (WILL)

If you don't study, you won't pass your exam

You won't pass your exam if you don't study

To talk about possibilities in the present or the future: plans, warnings, threats, persuasions, etc...

Mostly true

SECOND CONDITIONAL

IF + PAST SIMPLE, WOULD + INFINITIVE

If I won the lottery, I would buy you a Ferrari

I would be a model if I were taller

Imaginary situations in the present or the future

We normally use WERE instead of WAS after IF for all persons

Rarely true

THIRD CONDITIONAL

IF + PAST PERFECT, WOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

If I had studied for the exam, I would have passed

Imaginary situations in the past

Never true

MIXED Second - First

IF + PAST SIMPLE, FUTURE SIMPLE

If she was at the doctor, she will feel better

MIXED Second - Third

IF + PAST SIMPLE, PERFECT CONDITIONAL

If I were taller, I would have been chosen for the catwalk

MIXED Third - Second

IF + PAST PERFECT, PRESENT CONDITIONAL

If I had studied for the exam, I wouldn't be so upset

PRESENT CONDITIONAL

WOULD + INFINITIVE

I would like a cup of coffee

PERFECT CONDITIONAL

WOULD + HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

I would have liked to be an astronaut

Other conditional expressions:

As long as – So long as – Unless (if not) – Providing – Provided (that) – In case
Otherwise – Or else – even if – only if – But for + ing / noun – On condition (that)