

Tikrit University

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English Department

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Conditional Sentences (If)

Making conditional sentences is an everyday part of your native language, and introducing them to your English conversation can really improve your level of communication. An if statement is a programming conditional statement that, if proved true, performs a function or displays information.

If condition includes four states which is : Zero condition, First condition, Second condition, Third condition.

As we studied in in intermediate schools a conditional sentence is based on the word 'if'. So there are always two parts to a conditional sentence – one part beginning with 'if' to describe a possible situation, and the second part which describes the consequence. The position of (if) in all 4 conditions either in beginning or in middle.

If in beginning the first letter capitalize and put catastrophe between two sentences. But if position be in middle there is no catastrophe because if join two sentences , just the first letter write capital.

In Zero condition

Deals with permanent truths such as scientific facts only, and general habits includes verb act in simple present and answer act in simple present+ complement. As shown in below formula:

If +S+V(present simple)+C , S+V(present simple)+C.

The computer <u>saves</u> your document <u>if</u> you <u>click</u> on this icon.

Plants <u>die if you don't water</u> them.

or If you don't water plants, they die

If you heat water to 100°, it boils.

If you eat a lot, you put on weight.

If it doesn't rain for a long time, the earth gets very dry.

These examples explain to reader how to practice and know (if) condition.

In first condition express about property of something can happen, it includes act verb in simple present in first part and answer verb in second part but use will/would, can/could.

First condition. if+ present simple , future simple

If +S+V (present simple) +C , s+will+v+c.

If you'**re** free later, we **can go** for a walk. If they'**re** hungry, I'**ll make** some sandwiches. If you'**re not** back by 5pm, **give** me a ring. If he **studies** hard, he'**ll do** well in the exam. If we **arrive** late, we **must get** a taxi. He'**ll call** if he **needs** help

In Second condition use to express about things un real or imaginary never be true (impossible situations). The sentence includes after (if) past simple in act verb and in answer verb past future as shown in this formula: If +S+p.p+C , s+would/could+v+c.

-If I had enough money, I would buy a car.

or I would buy a car if I had enough money.

-If I were a bird , I would fly.

If I were rich, I would spend all my time travelling

if he didn't have to work late, he could go out with his girlfriend

In third condition express two conditions : If +S+p.p+C , s+would/could have+p.p+c.

If we had left earlier, we would have arrived on time.

If you hadn't forgotten her birthday, she wouldn't have been upset.

If they had booked earlier, they could have found better seats.

If I hadn't learnt English, I wouldn't have got this job.

1- regret condition in which we regret for something not happen or happen in past.

-If I had known about her problem , I could have lent her some money.

Or I <u>could have lent</u> her some money <u>if</u> I <u>had known</u> about her problem.

2-un real situations condition never happen in past.

If I had passed the test, I would have become a pilot.

I didn't pass the test. So I didn't become a pilot.

If you'd studied harder, you'd be at a higher level now.

We'd be lying on a beach now if we hadn't missed the plane.

They'**d have** much more confidence if they **hadn't lost** so many matches.

What would you be doing now if you hadn't decided to study?

In The end a question arise can neglect use if in our speech even in our first language or is there another alternatives. The answer came immediately from grammarians which they indicate that can't practice language correctly without it besides it take centuries of development until reach to its final form.