



CONDITIONALS

Overview: What Are Conditionals?

Super-Simple Explanation: Conditionals are sentences with “if” that talk about possibilities—things that might happen, could happen, or didn’t happen.

Zero Conditional (Facts & Rules)

Structure: If + present simple, present simple

Use: Things that are always true.

Example: “If you heat water to 100°C, it boils.”

Tip: “This is science or rules. Always true.”

Activity:

Match rule to result: If you drop a glass, it... (breaks) If babies are hungry, they... (cry)

First Conditional (Real Future Possibilities)

Structure: If + present simple, will + base verb

Use: Real things that might happen in the future.

Example: “If it rains tomorrow, we’ll stay home.”

Tip: “This is about tomorrow or next week. It’s possible.”

Activity:

- Complete: If I study hard, I will _____.
- If we miss the bus, we will _____.

Second Conditional (Unreal or Imaginary Present/Future)

Structure: If + past simple, would + base verb

Use: Imaginary or unlikely situations.

Example: “If I had a million dollars, I would travel the world.”

Tip: “This is a dream or something not real now.”

Activity:

- Write dream sentences: If I were invisible, I would _____.
- If I lived on Mars, I would _____.

Third Conditional (Unreal Past)

Structure: If + past perfect, would have + past participle

Use: Talking about past regrets or things that didn't happen.

Example: "If I had studied, I would have passed the test."

Tip: "This is about the past. It didn't happen."

Activity:

Students reflect: If I had woken up earlier, I would have _____.

If we had taken a taxi, we would have _____.

Visual Summary Table

Type	Time	Structure	Example
Zero	Always	If + present, present	If you mix red and blue, you get purple.
First	Future	If + present, will + verb	If I see her, I'll say hello.
Second	Unreal	If + past, would + verb	If I were taller, I would play basketball.
Third	Past	If + past perfect, would have + V3	If I had called, she would have come.