PDF 1 - What is the Third Conditional?



THIRD CONDITIONAL + MIXED CONDITIONALS

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1. What is the Third Conditional?

We use the Third Conditional to talk about unreal or imaginary situations in the past.

Something did not happen, and we imagine a different past.

Form

If-clause (condition)	Main clause (result)
If + past perfect	would have + past participle
If I had studied harder,	I would have passed the exam.

More examples

- If she had left earlier, she would have caught the train.
- If they had invited me, I would have gone to the party.

Important

- The situation is finished. We cannot change the past.
- We often use it to express regret or criticism.

2. Quick Check – Underline the correct form

1. If I had known / would have known about the meeting, I would have come / had come.
2. She would have passed / had passed if she had studied / would have studied more.
3. If they hadn't been / wouldn't have been late, they would have seen / had seen the beginning of the film.

3. Rewrite the sentences using the Third Conditional

Example: I didn't take the job → I didn't move to Canada.

→ If I had taken the job, I would have moved to Canada.

1. He didn't set an alarm. He woke up late.
   → _____
2. We didn't book the tickets early. We didn't get good seats.
   → _____
3. She didn't check the weather. She got very wet.
   → _____
4. They didn't listen to the advice. They made a big mistake.
   → _____
5. I didn't save enough money. I couldn't buy the car.
   → _____

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Answer Key

2. Quick Check – Underline the correct form

1. If I had known about the meeting, I would have come.
2. She would have passed if she had studied more.
3. If they hadn't been late, they would have seen the beginning of the film.

3. Rewrite the sentences (model answers – slight variations possible)

1. If he had set an alarm, he wouldn't have woken up late.
   (or: If he had set an alarm, he would have woken up on time.)
2. If we had booked the tickets early, we would have got good seats.
3. If she had checked the weather, she wouldn't have got very wet.
   (or: If she had checked the weather, she would have stayed dry.)
4. If they had listened to the advice, they wouldn't have made a big mistake.
5. If I had saved enough money, I could/would have bought the car.

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