

Conditional: 2 & 3

What If & Future Plans

Grammar & Structure

Level B1



Content

This lesson will cover the 2nd and 3rd Conditional tenses.

Learning Outcomes

- Learn the differences and uses for 2nd and 3rd conditional tenses.
- Write sentences using each tense.
- Give advice using the 2nd conditional.



Please note

The **2nd Conditional** is formed by:

If + past tense + conditional + infinitive

If

+

Past Tense (Past Simple/Past Continuous

+

Conditional (Would/Could/Might)

+

Infinitive

Example:

If I **had** a boat, I **could** go fishing in the ocean.

Examples

If it **wasn't** cloudy, we'd **be able** to see the eclipse.

If you **worked** at home, you **would spend** less on gas.

If I **had** a car, I **would take** you to the party.

If we **visited** France again, we **would visit** Nantes.

If you **took** care of your stuff, your toys **wouldn't be** broken.



Examples

If I **was** still living in Boston, I'd definitely **come** visit you!

If you **visited** me in Brazil, we **could go** to the beach together!

If he **offered** me a job, it **could be** a tough decision.

You can also switch the order of if and the conditional to have the same meaning.

If I moved to Quebec, I **could practice my French**.

I **could practice my French** if I moved to Quebec,

**Please note**

Sometimes the **subjunctive** is used in 2nd conditional sentences.

I was... —————> I were....

He/she/it was... —————> He/she/it were....

If she were happy with her job, she wouldn't be looking for another one.

If I were him, I wouldn't marry her.

**Please note**

We often use the expression “If I were you...” to give advice

I’ve lost my job! What should I do?

If I were you, I’d go back to college.

If I were you, I’d update my CV.

If I were you, I’d check the online job boards for new opportunities.



**Writing**

Write three sentences giving advice using
“If I were you...”

Example:

If I were you, I'd start saving money for college now!

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

**Please note**

The first conditional vs. the second conditional

Examples:

The first conditional is used to talk about events that are possible or likely.

If I win the lottery, I'll buy a big house!
(I have a ticket and I might win!)

The second conditional is used to talk about events that are imagined or hypothetical.

If I won the lottery, I would buy a big house.
(I am imagining an unlikely event in the future)

**Please note**

The difference often depends on the attitude of the speaker.

Examples:

If I get promoted, I'll go shopping!!

(Getting promoted is a real possibility)

If I got promoted, I'd go shopping.

(Getting promoted is unlikely to happen.)





Writing

Correctly connect the sentences.

If the weather was better...

If I knew her number...

He would do it...

You would get a pay raise...

If I had more spare time...

... if he could.

...if you worked harder.

...I'd call her.

... I would play tennis.

...we could go to the park.

**Writing**

Fill in the blanks with the correct verb tense.

I wouldn't do that if I _____ you. (to be)

If we lived in the country, we _____ a car. (to need)

If we _____ enough money, we could go to the Caribbean. (to have)

You'd meet more people if you _____ more. (to socialize)

If you _____ more, you get better grades. (to study)

**Writing**

Determine if the sentence is the 1st or 2nd conditional

- 1) If you park there, you'll get a fine.
- 2) If he finds out, he'll be angry.
- 3) I'll be late if I don't get a move on.
- 4) It would be cheaper if you took the bus.
- 5) If I knew how to do it, I'd help you.
- 6) If we moved house now, the children would have to change schools.

**Writing**

Write three sentences using the 2nd conditional

Example:

If I had a cat, I would name her Renata.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

**Please note**

We use the 3rd conditional to talk about the past. It is often used to express regrets.

Examples:

If I **had been** more careful, I **wouldn't have hit** my elbow so hard!

If I **had worked** harder at school, I **could've become** a doctor.

If you **had arrived** on time, we **wouldn't have missed** the beginning of the show!



**Please note**

The 3rd conditional is formed by:

If + past perfect + conditional + past participle

If

+

Past Perfect

+

Conditional (Would Have/Could Have/Might Have)

+

Past Participle

Example:

If I had eaten more this morning, I wouldn't be so hungry.

Examples

We **would've come** to the wedding **if** you **had told** us earlier.

I **would've been** a lawyer by now, **if** I **had continued** my studies at law school.

She **wouldn't have minded** **if** you **had parked** in her driveway.

I **wouldn't have been** late **if** my alarm **had gone** off this morning!



Examples

If I had had time, I would have gone to the cinema with you.

If we had taken that apartment, we would've had to continue to commute for 2 hours a day.

You can also switch the order of if and the conditional to have the same meaning.

If they had discussed it first, **they would never have had this problem.**

They would have never had this problem if they had discussed it first.

**Writing**

Correctly connect the sentences.

If you'd told me it was your
birthday...

We might have missed our flight...

If they had seen us...

You could've drowned...

...I would've made a cake.

...if you hadn't been wearing
a life jacket.

...if we hadn't taken a taxi to
the airport.

... they would have waved.

**Writing**

Fill in the blanks with the correct verb tense.

- 1) If you _____ the instructions, you wouldn't _____ the new TV. (follow / break)
- 2) If we _____ all our money on the new car, we could _____ on holiday this summer. (not spend / go)
- 3) If he _____ his exams, he would _____ upset. (fail / be)
- 4) If I _____ you were so hungry, I would _____ more for dinner. (know / make)



Diana's Regrets

“If I had worked harder at school I could’ve gotten really good grades and would’ve been accepted to Oxford University. If I had gone to Oxford, I would’ve been taught by some of the best professors in the country. It would also have been a great opportunity to learn about the historic city and meet new friends. If they had accepted me, I would’ve been the best student they had ever seen!”

**Writing**

What do you wish you had done differently? Do you have any regrets?

Write 3 regrets using the 3rd conditional.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

**Please note**

2nd conditional: unreal or unlikely events

3rd conditional: past events, regrets

2nd Conditional

If + past tense + conditional + infinitive

If I was 21 again, I would party even harder!

3rd Conditional

If + past perfect + conditional + past participle

If you had asked me, I would have told you what I thought.

Thank you

We would like to thank
the following sources for their content

Images Shutterstock – ID 92705170
Shutterstock – ID 76990918
Shutterstock – ID 92604349
Shutterstock – ID 132492740
Shutterstock – ID 136290551
Shutterstock – ID 136141373
Shutterstock – ID 139376918

Thank you

for choosing to learn
with

lingoda



We would like to thank
the following sources for their content

Images

shutterstock_92705170

shutterstock_76990918

shutterstock_92604349

shutterstock_132492740

shutterstock_136290551

shutterstock_136141373

shutterstock_139376918