## Conditionals: Zero, First, Second, Third, & Mixed (Beginner - Advanced)

### The 'ZERO' CONDITIONAL:

To talk about a **GENERAL** condition or fact. Something that **usually** happens.

If **it rains** in Miami, I **use** an umbrella. I **wear** a sweater if **it** is cold. *When it is sunny in Miami, I **go** to the beach.*

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### The 'FIRST' CONDITIONAL:

To talk about a **REAL POSSIBILITY**.

If **it rains** tomorrow, I **will use** an umbrella. If I **have time**, I will **call** my mom. *When you **come** to Miami, I will **buy** you a drink.*

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### The 'SECOND' CONDITIONAL:

To talk about an **UNREAL POSSIBILITY**.

I **would call** my mom if I **had time**. (I don't have time, so I will not call.)

If I **won** the lottery, I **would buy** a new car. (Winning doesn't seem possible.)

**"To be": 'Were' is used with all subjects, although 'was' is common in spoken English.

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### The 'THIRD' CONDITIONAL:

To talk about an **UNREAL POSSIBILITY/CONDITION IN THE PAST**.

If I **hadn't had** time, I **wouldn't have called** my Mom. (I had time, so I called.)

If she **had been** sick, she **wouldn't have come** to work. (She was not sick.)

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### MIXED CONDITIONALS:

Mixed Conditionals are used to show how a past condition or possibility affects, or would affect, the present, or vice versa: how a present or general condition affects, or would have affected, the past.

**Past Condition:**

If she **had been** sick, she **wouldn't have come** to work. (She came to work.)

If she **had been** sick, she **would be** at home in bed. (She is not in bed.)

**General Condition:**

If I **were taller**, I **would score** score more points when I play basketball. (I don't score many points.)

If I **were taller**, I **would have played** basketball in high school. (I didn't play basketball in high school.)
**Conditionals: Zero, First, Second, Third, & Mixed (Beginner - Advanced) Exercises and Practice**

**A.** A good way to escape boredom is to find a hobby. Using the zero conditional, tell what each person does when they are bored. The first example is done for you.

1) Roscoe likes to fish. If Roscoe is bored, he fishes.
2) Morgan has a stamp collection. ________________________________.
3) Erica loves to cook. ________________________________.
4) Michelle calls her boyfriend. ________________________________.
5) My mother writes letters. ________________________________.
6) Devon drives around town. ________________________________.

**B.** The American singer Doris Day sang a song called "Que Sera, Sera," which is Spanish for "what will be, will be." While we can't know what the future will be, it's fun to imagine. Using the first conditional, write a one-sentence response to each future prediction.

1) You will make a lot of money. ________________________________.
2) You will have six sons. ________________________________.
3) You will travel to Antarctica. ________________________________.
4) You will become famous. ________________________________.
5) You will go to jail. ________________________________.

**C. Zero and First Conditionals** Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. When ________________________________, dogs usually bark and growl.
2. If a hurricane comes, ________________________________.
3. The teacher will be angry if ________________________________.
4. ________________________________ when someone speaks to me in English.
5. If my pen is broken or doesn't write, ________________________________.
D. Practice using the imperative with the zero and first conditional:

Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. When you arrive in Miami, _________________________________.

2. Welcome to my house. If you get hungry, _________________________________.

3. Don't get upset if I _________________________________.

E. Please write a five-sentence paragraph about what you would do if world peace were declared tomorrow. Use the second conditional, as this is an unreal possibility.

F. Write questions for your partner beginning with a Wh (question word) + would. Discuss your answers and report to the class.

1. ____________________________________________________________________.

2. ____________________________________________________________________.

3. ____________________________________________________________________.

4. ____________________________________________________________________.

5. ____________________________________________________________________.

G. Zero, First, and Second Conditional. Complete the sentences using the Zero, First, or Second Conditional.

1. If I have to work this Saturday, _________________________________.

2. When I am bored, _________________________________.

3. If I moved to Japan tomorrow, _________________________________.

H. Third Conditional: Using the words in parentheses, complete the text below with the appropriate forms.

1. I was so busy last week that I couldn't make it to my English class. I ___________________________ (love) to attend if I ________________________ (to be, not) so busy.

2. Tell him I am sorry that I couldn't help him. If I ___________________________ (have) the money, I ___________________________ (lend) it to him when he asked.

3. I grew up in Russia. If I ___________________________ (grew up) in Miami, I ___________________________ (learn) English as a child.
I. Complete the sentences below with the verb in the correct form and tense.

1. Tom had a car accident last week because he was driving too fast.
   If he ___________________________ so fast, he ___________________________ an accident.

2. Tom can't go fishing this weekend because he doesn't have a boat.
   If he ___________________________ a boat, he ___________________________ fishing.

3. Tom couldn't go to the interview because his car was being repaired.
   If he ___________________________ a car, he ___________________________ to the interview.

4. Tom is pretty sure that it will rain tomorrow, so he plans on going to the cinema.
   If it ___________________________ , he ___________________________ to the cinema.

J. Choose another person (a friend or a famous person) and write a paragraph describing what your life would be like and would have been like if you had been born as them and now lived their life.

K. Match the correct clauses to form a sentence.

   a. If I hadn’t studied
   b. If I knew
   c. When I am wrong
   d. I would go on vacation
   e. I would have gone
   f. If I study
   g. I would have studied more in high school
   h. If it rains tomorrow
   i. I pass the test
   j. If I weren’t so lazy
   k. I still wouldn’t tell you.
   l. I would have failed the test
   m. I’ll be sad
   n. If I’d had time
   o. If I had the money
   p. I get really angry

L. Research and write an alternative history: choose an important event in history and its outcome. Prepare a presentation detailing another scenario or outcome. For example: What if Japan hadn’t attacked Pearl Harbor, dragging the USA into the war? What if the Cuban Missile Crisis hadn’t been resolved?
M. Mixed Conditionals: Complete the sentences below with the verbs in the correct form and tense.

1. Tom is in the hospital because he had a car accident last week.
   
   If he ____________________________ (have) a car accident last week, he ____________________________ (to be, not) in the hospital now.

2. Tom can't go fishing this weekend because his boat sunk.
   
   If his boat ____________________________ (not, sink), he ____________________________ (go) fishing this weekend.

3. Tom couldn't find his keys because his house is always so messy.
   
   If his house ____________________________ (to be, not) always so messy, he ____________________________ (found) his keys.

Thank you for completing our lesson and exercises! If you have any questions, please contact us.

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