October 2023 OPEN INTERMEDIATE WORKSHOP

Zero, First and Second Conditionals

Conditional sentences describe the <u>result</u> of a certain <u>condition.</u>
  They have 2 parts:

- *the 'if' clause which tells you the <u>condition</u> (e.g., If you study hard,)*

- *the main clause which tells you the <u>result</u> (e.g., you will pass your exams).*

The order of the clauses can be changed without changing the meaning.

The zero, first, and second conditionals are forms of conditional sentences used to express different types of conditions and their possible outcomes.

In summary, the zero conditional expresses general truths, the first conditional expresses likely future outcomes, and the second conditional expresses hypothetical or unlikely situations.
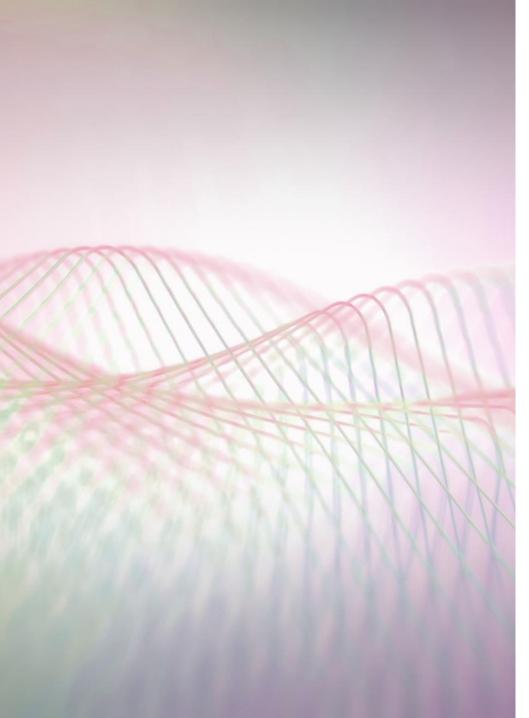
Let's take a closer look! 👀

Zero Conditional

We use the **zero conditional** to talk about general truths, known facts or situations that are generally true, *where the same result is expected when a specific condition is met.*

The **zero conditional** is formed with the present simple tense in both the condition and the result clauses.

In **zero conditional** sentences, you can replace "if" with "when", because they both express general truths.

Zero Conditional - EXAMPLE SENTENCES

The structure is: if/when + present simple >> present simple.

1. If you heat water to 100 degrees Celsius, it boils. **OR**
   Water boils if you heat it to 100 degrees Celsius.

2. If you heat ice, it melts. **OR**
   Ice melts if you heat it.

3. When the sun goes down, it gets dark. **OR**
   It gets dark when the sun goes down.

4. When it rains, the ground gets wet. **OR**
   The ground gets wet when it rains.

5. If I drink too much coffee, I can't sleep at night. **OR**
   I can't sleep at night if I drink too much coffee.

First Conditional

- **The first conditional is used to talk about possible future events or situations and their likely outcomes. It refers to situations that have a realistic chance of happening.**

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- The **first conditional** is formed with the present simple tense in the condition clause and the future simple tense (or an alternative future form) in the result clause.

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- It is common to add 'probably' **after** 'will' or **before** 'won't, or to replace 'will' with words such as '*might*' or '*may*' when you are less sure about an outcome.

First Conditional - EXAMPLE SENTENCES

The structure is: if/when + present simple >> will + verb.

1. If it rains tomorrow, we **will (probably)** stay indoors.

2. If you don't study hard, you **(probably) won't** pass the exam.

3. If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we might go to the beach.

4. I'll call you when I get back from my business trip.

5. I'll leave when I finish writing this report.

Second Conditional

The **second conditional** is used to describe hypothetical present or future scenarios.

The **second conditional** is formed with the past simple tense in the conditional clause and the infinitive in the result clause.

When *'if'* is followed by the verb be, it is grammatically correct to say *"if I were"*, *"if he were"*, *"if she were"* and *"if it were"*. However, it is also common to hear these structures with *'was'*, especially in spoken English.

Second Conditional - EXAMPLE SENTENCES

The structure is usually: if + past simple >> would + infinitive.

1. If I won the lottery, I would travel the world.

2. I would apologize if I were you.

3. If our team had access to better data analytics tools, we would make more informed decisions.

4. If she was prime minister, she would invest more money in schools.

5. He would travel more if he were younger.

A quick recap and comparison!

Zero conditional: **If/When it rains, I use my umbrella.** *(This is a true statement of fact)*

First conditional: **If it rains later, I will use my umbrella.** *(There are rain clouds in the sky, so this is highly likely)*

Second conditional: **If I had an umbrella, I would use it!** *(... but I don't have an umbrella!)*

LET'S PRACTICE

ACTIVITY 1

01.   If we _____ the project early, we will impress our clients.
a) complete
b) completed
c) would complete

02.   If our company _____ the contract, we would gain a significant market share.
a) wins
b) won
c) will win

03.   If I _____ a good presentation, I feel happy.
a) will deliver
b) would deliver
c) deliver

04.   If our competitors _____ their prices, we might lose customers.
a) lower
b) lowered
c) will lower

05. **If the shipment _____ delayed, we might miss the deadline.**
a) would get
b) will get
c) gets

06. **When we _____ a discount, more customers buy our products.**
a) offer
b) offered
c) will offer

07. **If our website _____ more user-friendly, online sales would increase.**
a) is
b) were
c) will be

08. **If we _____ our sales targets, we will receive a bonus.**
a) achieved
b) achieve
c) would achieve

09. If the conference _____ cancelled, we will need to reschedule our flights.
a) is
b) was
c) will be

10. If the market _____ bigger, we could expand our operations.
a) would be
b) were
c) will be

11. If I were the CEO, I would _____ more in research and development.
a) will invest
b) invested
c) invest

12. When the price of raw materials _____, our production costs increase.
a) will rise
b) rose
c) rises

13. If we _____ our pricing strategy, we would attract a broader customer base.
a) would restructure
b) restructured
c) will improve

14. When the company _____ an order, the production process begins immediately.
a) receives
b) received
c) will receive

15. If we _____ this project, we might face legal action.
a) abandoned
b) abandon
c) will abandon

16. If an employee _____ their required training, they receive a certificate.
a) would complete
b) will complete
c) completes

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LET'S PRACTICE

ACTIVITY 2

01 What happens when we provide excellent customer service?
a) When we provide excellent customer service, our customers wouldn't be satisfied
b) When we provide excellent customer service, our customers will be satisfied
c) When we provide excellent customer service, our customers were satisfied
d) When we provide excellent customer service, our customers are satisfied

02 What would happen if he knew the answer?
a) If he would know the answer, he would tell us
b) If he knew the answer, he would tell us
c) If he would know the answer, he tell us
d) If he knew the answer, he tell us

03 What may happen if the project is successful?
a) If the project is successful, we may receive a bonus
b) If the project is successful, we would receive a bonus
c) If the project is successful, we may receiving a bonus
d) If the project is successful, we would be receiving a bonus

04 What happens when demand increases?
a) When demand would increase, prices rise
b) When demand increases, prices rose
c) When demand increases, prices rise
d) When demand will increase, prices rose

05 What would happen if she had more time?
a) If she had more time, she would travel the world
b) If she have more time, she will travel the world
c) If she had more time, she travel the world
d) If she will have more time, she would travel the world

06 What will happen if they finish the report on time?
a) If they will finish the report on time, we'll meet our deadline
b) If they would finish the report on time, we'll be meeting our deadline
c) If they finish the report on time, we would meet our deadline
d) If they finish the report on time, we'll meet our deadline

07 What will happen if it rains tomorrow?
a) If it would rain tomorrow, I will stay at home
b) If it rains tomorrow, I staying at home
c) If it rains tomorrow, I will stay at home
d) If it will rain tomorrow, I stay at home

08 What would happen if they lived in a warmer climate?
a) If they living in a warmer climate, they not be needing winter coats
b) If they lived in a warmer climate, they wouldn't need winter coats
c) If they will live in a warmer climate, they will need winter coats
d) If they living in a warmer climate, they wouldn't need winter coats

09 What happens when our team finishes a project on time?
a) When our team will finish a project on time, our boss is happy.
b) When our team would finish a project on time, our boss is happy.
c) When our team finishes a project on time, our boss was happy.
d) When our team finishes a project on time, our boss is happy.

10 What could happen if it wasn't raining?
a) If it wasn't raining, we could went for a picnic.
b) If it will not rain, we could gone for a picnic.
c) If it wasn't raining, we could go for a picnic.
d) If it wouldn't be raining, we could go for a picnic.