

CONDITIONALS

TYPES OF CONDITIONALS

ZERO:

If clause: If + present tense
main clause: present tense

e.g. If the weather is cold, the
fruit takes longer to ripen

It shows something that is always
true

1st type

If clause :If + present tense

Main clause:

- ☐ future simple
- ☐ Imperative
- ☐ Modal + bare infinitive
- ☐ Had better +bare infinitive

It shows something that is possible now or in the future

Examples

1.If I **have** time, I' ll **visit** you

2.If you **don't feel** well, **stay** in

3.If you **want**, you **can** stay here

4.If **it's** late, we **had better** go

2nd Type

If clause: If + simple past or
past continuous

Main clause: would/could/might
+bare infinitive

It shows:

- a) something that is not true or real, or something unlikely to happen in the future
- b) it is used to give advice

Examples

If I **had** time, I **would visit** you

If I **were** you, I **would study**
harder

Notes:

1. In the if-clause, we usually use **were** instead of was after

I/he/she/it

2. The if-clause can come after the main clause, but then there is **no** comma.

3rd Type

If clause: If + past
perfect

main clause: would + have
+ past participle

It shows something
imaginary or untrue in the
past, but that may have
been possible but didn't
happen

Examples

If he had been driving more
carefully , he wouldn't have
crashed the car

Unless=if not

Ted can help you unless he is busy

Instead of **If** we can use:

- **Even if**

Even if it rains, we 'll have a good time

- **Only if**

Only if it is sunny will we go out (inversion)

- **As long as**

As long as you promise to be on time, you will have an appointment

- **Providing that/provided that**

Providing/provided that we were the same size, you can wear my ski boots

- **Supposing**

Supposing you could travel to any country in the world, where would you go?

- **On condition that**

You can use my computer on condition that you don't go online

Other unreal situations would rather/sooner

- **Would rather/sooner + bare infinitive** to talk about the present or near future (only if the subject of the infinitive is the same as the subject of would rather)
- **Would rather/sooner + perfect infinitive** to talk about the past (only if the subject of the infinitive is the same as the subject of would rather)

e.g. I'd rather wait for you outside

e.g. I'd rather have taken a taxi, but Paul wanted to walk

Would rather/sooner with a different subject

Would rather/sooner +
Past simple to talk about
the present or near future

e.g. I'd rather you didn't
speak so loud

Would rather/sooner +
Past Perfect to talk about
the past

- e.g. I'd rather they had
told me about it first

It's time

It's time +Past

Simple suggests
that the actual time
has passed

e.g. It's time we told him
the truth

e.g. it's about high time
they learnt to swim

BUT

If it's still the
appropriate time ,
then we can use
other structures

e.g. It's time (for us)
to go

**MORE TO COME... ON
WISHES AND REGRETS!**

Wishes and Regrets

**We express our wishes
and regrets in 3 ways**

A.To talk about a present situation
or something arranged for the
future we use:

**a)Wish/If only + Past simple/Past
continuous**

e.g.I wish Mary spoke Italian!

Or

I wish he were coming with us!

b)wish/if only + could + bare infinitive

e.g. I wish/If only I could swim!

Or

I wish/If only I could fly to Spain
this year!

B. To talk about wishes and regrets that refer to the past we use:

I wish/If only + Past Perfect

eg. I wish/If only I had saved more money! (but I didn't)

C. Wishes for impossible or unlikely future changes (often a wish for a change in someone's behaviour)

I wish/If only + subject + would + bare infinitive

e.g. I wish/If only Diana would help me with homework!

D. Wishes about future events that are quite likely

**hope + Present simple or Future
simple**

e.g. I hope Mary comes/will come
to the cinema with us tonight!

Let's hope you know all
there is to it about
WISHES!!!