

3 conditionals | if clauses | type 1, 2 and 3

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Conditional sentences

Conditional sentences express what will happen if a certain action is performed. Conditional sentences commonly begin with words and phrases such as:

If, provided, only if, when, unless, even if, in case etc.

Examples:

- You will be allowed to play cricket **only if** you finish your homework by 4:00.
- **If** you want to be paid for a full day, you have to arrive at work on time.
- **Even if** we leave right now, we will still be late to the wedding.

Conditional Sentences

If he comes, I shall go = I shall go if he comes.

Conditional (if) clause Main (principal) clause



3 Conditionals types

1. **First conditional** (Real situation)
2. **Second conditional** (Unreal)
3. **Third conditional** (past)

1. First conditional (real)

Structure:- Conj. +S+V₁+..... , S+ will/can +V₁

If + Simple Present, + Will/Won't

If can be replaced with *even if/only if/in case/unless*

This conditional describes things based on **fact**. We use this conditional when referring to conditions that are **possible** and **very likely** to happen in the future.

Examples:

- *If it rains, we will have to cancel the picnic.*
- *If you visit Delhi, you must see the Red Fort.*

यदि दो कार्य भविष्य में एक के बाद एक हो तथा दूसरे कार्य का होना पहले कार्य के होने पर निर्भर करे तो पहला कार्य simple present tense में तथा दूसरा कार्य simple future tense में होता है तथा condition की पूरी होने की सम्भावना होती है

Example:-

If the government **will become** strict, corruption will surely finish. (**Incorrect**)

If the government **becomes** strict, corruption will surely finish. (**correct**)

Note:- Conditional clause me will/shall/would का प्रयोग नहीं होता है-

Example:-

I will be in the classroom until 4:00 pm in case you **will** need my help. (**correct**)

I will be in the classroom until 4:00 pm in case you need my help. (**correct**)

Example:-

If you **will** complete your homework, you will be allowed to watch television. (**Incorrect**)

If you complete your homework, you will be allowed to watch television. (**Correct**)

2. Second conditional (unreal(काल्पनिक))

Structure:- Conj. +S+V₂+..... , S+ would/could +V₁+....

(कर देता /कर पाता)

If + Simple Past, + Would/Wouldn't + V¹

This conditional describes **unreal** or **imaginary conditions**.

We use this conditional when referring to conditions that are **not likely** to happen or contrary to present facts. अर्थात ये वाक्य काल्पनिक situation को दर्शाते है

*If I were well-versed in the subject, I **would** help you with your assignment.*

(यदि मैं इस विषय में अच्छा होता तो मैं तुम्हारे assignment में जरूर मदद कर पाता)

Examples:

- *If I had a million dollars, I would buy a luxury car.*
- *I could stop working if I won the lottery.*
- *If I were you, I would ask her to marry me.*

Ex:- She would go to Spain only if her parents **would** buy her a plane ticket. (**Incorrect**)

She would go to Spain only if her parents bought her a plane ticket. (**Correct**)

3. Third conditional (past)

Structure:- If +S+had+V₃ +....., S+ would/could have +V₃ (कर दिया होता /कर पाया होता)

If + Past Perfect, + Would/Wouldn't have + V₃

This conditional refers to things that happened in the **past** and are **impossible to change**.

(इस तरह के sentence (वाक्य) भूतकाल की घटनाओ को दर्शाते है तथा अब उनको बदल पाना लगभग असंभव है)

Ex:-*If I had studied a little more in college, life would have been easier.*

(यदि मैं कॉलेज में थोड़ी ओर ज्यादा पढाई कर पाया होता तो लाइफ आसान हो जाती)

Examples:

- *If we had gotten to the airport on time, we would have caught our flight.*
- *I could have asked him about the matter if he had shown up.*

Note:- ऐसे वाक्यो में 'If' को 'had' से भी replace कर सकते है-

Structure:- Had+S+V₃ +....., S+ would/could have +V₃

Ex:- If she had filled the car up with gas, she would not have been late. (**correct**)

Had she filled the car up with gas, she would not have been late. (**correct**)

Ex:-If you **would** have remembered your list, you would have known what to buy at the store. (**Incorrect**)

If you had remembered your list, you would have known what to buy at the store. (**correct**)

Conditional sentences common errors

Incorrect: Had he worked hard he would pass the examination in first class.

Correct: Had he worked hard he **would have passed** the examination in first class.

Incorrect: If I followed the instruction I could have averted the mishap.

Correct: If I **had** followed the instruction I could have averted the mishap.

Explanation:-third conditional structure:- If +S+had+V₃ +....., S+ would/could have +V₃

We can replace 'if' with 'had'

Had+S+V₃ +....., S+ would/could have +V₃

Incorrect: If I studied well, I will pass.

Correct: If I studied well, I **would** pass.

Explanation:– second conditional structure:- Conj. +S+V2+..... , S+ would/could +V1+....

Incorrect: Unless you worked hard, you will not succeed.

Correct: Unless you **work** hard, you will not succeed.

Explanation:– First conditional structure:- Conj. +S+V1+..... , S+ will/can +V1

Incorrect: If I would know what you wanted i would help you.

Correct: If I **knew** what you wanted i would help you.

Explanation:- don't use 'would' with conditional clause.

Incorrect: The students wouldn't have finished their work even if the teacher **would** have been there.

Correct: The students wouldn't have finished their work even if the teacher had been there.

Some important questions for SSC exams

1. As soon as **she will hear** the dog barks, she will know he is at the door. **[SSC-2012]**

a. she heard b. She will be hearing c. she hears d. no improvement

Ans:- c

Correct: As soon as **she hears** the dog barks, she will know he is at the door.

2. If she had seen(A)/the car coming, she (B)/may not crossed the road.(C)/ no error(d)

[SSC-2014]

Ans:- C (would not have crossed)

Explanation:-third conditional structure:- If +S+had+V3 +....., S+ would/could have +V3

3. If I will get an opportunity, I shall attend the seminar. **[SSC-2015]**

a. get b. No improvement c. got d. shall get

Ans:- A

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