**Abderhmane Mira University** 

Module : English Level : L3 G04

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## **Lecture: Expressing if clauses to solve problems**

• A complete conditional sentence contains a conditional clause (often referred to as the if clause) and a consequence or result clause (often referred to as main clause).

Fg: If water reaches 100 degrees (main clause)

If water reaches 100 degrees (the if clause)

If water reaches 100 degrees (the main clause)

- Using the correct structure for each of these different conditional sentences is very important because the meaning changes from one situation to another.
- When using the conditional modes, you should pay attention to the verb tense.
- A comma is used when the If clause procedes the main clause but if the main clause procedes the if clause, there is no need for punctuation.
- The meaning remains the same in the case the **if clause** precedes the **main clause** or **the main clause** precedes the **if clause**.

• There are four types of coditional sentences.

## **Types of conditional sentences :**

Types of	When to use	Main	If-clause	Examples
conditional		clause		
sentences				
Type zero	To talk about	Simple	Simple	If you heat ice, it
	general truth or	present	present	melts.
	scientific facts.	tense	tense	
Type 1	To talk about a	Will+ stem	Simple	If you study , you will
	possible situation		present	pass the exam.
	and the result.			
Type 2	To talk about a	Would+	Simple past	If they sold their
	hypothetical	stem		house, they would be
	situation and the			rich.
	result.			
Type 3	To talk about an	Would	Past	If you had studied, you
	impossible past	have+ p.p	prefect	would have passed the
	situation and the			exam.
	result that could			
	have happened.			

**Exercise 01:** complete the following sentences using an appropriate verb form.

- **1.** I will come if i (have) time.
- 2. If you (to run) into peter, tell him that he owes me a letter.
- **3.** If he is late, we (to start) without him.
- 4. If you (to ask) me, i would have told you.
- 5. Will it be all right if i (to bring) a friend tonight?
- **6.** If he (to run) a bit faster, he could have won.
- 7. If i hadn't been so tired, i (to give) up
- **8.** If you (to want) to learn a musical instrument, you have to practice.

**Exercise 02:** write a short paragraph in which you describe a problem that you have to solve using conditional sentences.