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THE CONDITIONAL

Conditional sentences have two parts: if-clause and the main clause. In the sentence "if the weather is nice, we will go out", "if the weather is nice" is the if-clause, and "we will go out" is the main clause.

When the if-clause begins the sentence, use a comma to separate the two clauses as in the example aforementioned. However, when it finishes the sentence there is no need for a comma.

Example: If the weather is nice, we will go out. / We will go out if the weather is nice. In English, there are four basic conditional structures.

1-THE ZERO CONDITIONAL

The zero conditional (**also called conditional type 0**) is a structure used for talking about scientific facts and general truths; the time is now or always.

IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)	MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)
If + simple present	Simple present
If you heat ice,	it melts .
MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)	IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)
Simple present	If + simple present
Plants die	if they don't get enough water.

Examples:

- If you **freeze** water, it **becomes** a solid.
- Phosphorus **burns** if you **expose** it to air.

2-THE FIRST CONDITIONAL

The first conditional (also called conditional type 1) is a structure used for talking about possibilities in the present or in the future, and the situation is real. They refer to a possible condition and its probable result.

IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)	MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)
If + simple present	Simple future
If it is sunny,	we will go to the park.

Examples:

-If you **cook** the supper, I **will wash** the dishes.

-Peter will buy a new car if he gets his raise.

<u>3-THE SECOND CONDITIONAL</u>

The second conditional (also called conditional type 2) is a structure used for talking about unreal situations in the past simple or in the present conditional, the time is now or any time. They are not based on fact, and they refer to an unlikely or hypothetical condition and its probable result.

IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)	MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)
If + simple past	Present conditional
If I had two million Dollars,	I would buy a big house.
MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)	IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)
Present conditional	If + simple past
You wouldn't be so tired	if you went to bed earlier.

Examples:

- If Mary **spoke** Japanese, she **would move** to Japan.
- What would you do if you won the lottery?

I. <u>THE THIRD CONDITIONAL</u>

The third conditional (also called conditional type 3) is a structure used for talking about unreal situations in the past, and they are contrary to reality. The facts are opposite of what is expressed; they refer to an unreal past condition and its probable past result.

IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)	MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)
If + past perfect	Perfect conditional
If he had had more money,	he would have travelled to America.
MAIN CLAUSE (RESULT)	IF-CLAUSE (CONDITION)
Perfect conditional	If + past perfect
You would have passed the exam	if you had worked harder.

Examples:

- If you had driven more carefully, you would not have had an accident.
- What city would you have chosen if you had decided to move to the United States?

Exercise 01: say whether the sentences are in conditional type 0, 1, 2 or 3.

- 1. If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we will have a picnic
- 2. If you had come to class every day, you would have had no troubles.
- **3.** They will tell him the truth if he comes.
- 4. If I were you, I would not do that.
- 5. They won't come unless you invite them.
- 6. If you mix red and blue, you get purple.

Exercise 02: put the verbs in brackets in the correct form.

- 1. I think you were very rude to her; I would apologize if I _____(be) you.
- 2. Diana would have been here earlier if she _____(not miss) the train.
- **3.** You get water if you _____(mix) hydrogen and oxygen.
- 4. What will you _____(do) if you _____(lose) the match?
- 5. You wouldn't have lost your job if you _____(work) seriously.
- 6. If he _____(be) the president, he would help the poor.

THE CORRECTION OF EXERCISES

Exercise 01: say whether the sentences are in conditional type 0, 1, 2 or 3.

- 1. If it does not rain tomorrow, we will have a picnic. (conditional type 1)
- 2. If you had come to class every day, you would have had no troubles. (conditional type 3)
- **3.** They will tell him the truth if he comes. (conditional type 1)
- 4. If I were you, I would not do that. (conditional type 2)
- 5. They will not come unless you invite them. (conditional type 1)
- 6. If you mix red and blue, you get purple.

(conditional type 0)

7. Exercise 02: put the verbs in brackets in

the correct form.

- 1. I think you were very rude to her; I would apologize if I were you.
- 2. Diana would have been here earlier if she had not missed the train.
- 3. You get water if you **mix** hydrogen and oxygen.
- 4. What will you do if you lose the match?
- 5. You would not have lost your job if you had worked seriously.
- If he were the president, he would help the poor