



'IF' CONDITIONAL SENTENCE

Zero Conditional Sentences

A zero conditional sentence is one which refers to a general truth. It denotes situations in which a particular thing or action always results in the other. In zero conditional sentences, both the dependent clause and the independent clause are written in the simple present tense. This is mainly due to the fact that the outcomes are guaranteed.

A few examples of zero conditional sentences are given below.

Examples of Zero Conditional Sentences

- When you smoke, your lungs are affected.
- The lawn gets wet when it rains.
- Babies cry when they are hungry and sick.
- If you don't water the plants, they die.
- If you don't exercise, you gain weight.

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES TYPE I

Sentence Structure: 'IF'+ Simple Present + Simple Future

Complete the Conditional Sentences Type I.

- If you go out with your friends tonight, I will watch the football match on TV.
- I will earn a lot of money if I get that job.
- If she does not hurry, we will miss the bus.

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES TYPE II

Sentence Structure: 'IF'+ Past tenses + would + infinitive



Complete the Conditional Sentences Type II.

- **If** he **tried** harder, he **would** reach his goals.
- It **would** not surprise me **if** he did not **know** the answer.

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES TYPE III

Sentence Structure: 'IF'+ Past Perfect + would have

Complete the Conditional Sentences Type III.

- **If** we **had listened** to the radio, we **would have** heard the news.
- **If** you **had switched** on the lights, you **would not have** fallen over the chair.
- She **would have** come to our party **if** she **had** not been on holiday.

Conditional Sentences Type I, II or III

Complete the Conditional Sentences with the correct form (Type I, II or III).

- If I were stronger, I'd help you carry the piano.
- If we'd seen you, we would have stopped .
- If we meet him tomorrow, we'll say hello.
- He would have repaired the car himself if he had had the tools.
- If you drop the vase, it will break .
- If I hadn't studied, I would not have passed the exam.
- I wouldn't go to school by bus if I had a driving licence.
- If she didn't see him every day, she'd be lovesick.
- I won't travel to London if I don't get a cheap flight.

Check Your Understanding of Conditional Sentences



Go through the following sentences and identify what type of conditional sentences they are.

1. If my parents had not consented to the surgery, my life would have been different.
2. If we let them know, they will be able to do something.
3. If I had an invisibility cloak, I could disappear whenever I wanted to.
4. If she had not gone home, she would have been happier.
5. If nobody understood you, you could leave.
6. If you do not follow the traffic rules, you will be punished.
7. If I had magical powers, I could change the world.
8. If you eat fast food every day, you get sick.
9. If they stay indoors, they will not become sick.
10. If I were a bird, I would happily fly around the world.

ANSWERS:

1. If my parents had not consented to the surgery, my life would have been different. – Third Conditional Sentence
2. If we let them know, they will be able to do something. – First Conditional Sentence
3. If I had an invisibility cloak, I could disappear whenever I wanted to. – Second Conditional Sentence
4. If she had not gone home, she would have been happier.- Third Conditional Sentence
5. If nobody understood you, you could leave. – Second Conditional Sentence
6. If you do not follow the traffic rules, you will be punished. – First Conditional Sentence



7. If I had magical powers, I could change the world. – Second Conditional Sentence
8. If you eat fast food every day, you get sick. – Zero Conditional Sentence
9. If they stay indoors, they will not become sick. – First Conditional Sentence
10. If I were a bird, I would happily fly around the world. – Second Conditional Sentence