

Conditionals

Conditionals are sentences that have two events. Let's call these **event A** (the condition) and **event B** (the result). There are five types of conditionals: zero, first, second, third and mixed. Most conditional sentences use a conditional conjunction. The most common ones are **if** and **when**.

Zero Conditional

Use: General facts and truths

If + present simple

If you heat water to 100°C

present simple

it boils

First Conditional

Use: Events that are very likely to happen

If + present simple

If you sit in the sun too long

future simple

you will burn

Second Conditional

Use: Events that are very unlikely to happen

If + past simple

If I won the lottery

would + infinitive

I would buy a house

Third Conditional

Use: Alternative past event leads to a different present time

If + past perfect

If I had studied harder

would have + past participle

I would have passed the exam