Zero conditional



The 'if' can usually be replaced by 'when' without changing the meaning.

For example: If you touch a fire, you get burned. (It is always true, there can't be a different result sometimes).

If babies **are** *hungry*, *they* **cry**. (This is true only for me, maybe, not for everyone, but it's still true that I'm sick every time I eat peanuts).

Exercise A: Use O conditional.

1 If I (wake up) late, I (be) late for work.
2 If my husband (cook), he (burn) the food.
3 If people (eat) too much, they (get) fat.
4 Snakes (bite) if they (be) scared.
5 She (buy) expensive clothes if she (go) shopping.

First conditional



It's used to talk about things which might happen in the future. This describes possible things, which could easily come true.

For example: If it rains, I will take my umbrella.

If I don't **study** hard, I **won't pass** the exams.

Exercise B: Use I conditional.

1 If I	(have) enough money, I	(buy) some new shoes.
2 She	(be) late if the train	(be) delayed.
3 She	(miss) the bus if she	(not leave) soon.
4 If I	(see) her, I	(tell) her.
5 If you	(sit) in the sun, you	(get) burned.

The second conditional



We can use 'were' instead of 'was' with 'I' and 'he/she/it'. This is mostly done in formal writing:

If I were you, I wouldn't go out with that man.

First, we can use it to talk about things in the future that are probably not going to be true. Maybe I'm imagining some dream for example.

If I won the lottery, I would buy a big house. (I probably won't win the lottery)

Second, we can use it to talk about something in the present which is impossible, because it's not true. Is that clear? Have a look at the examples:

If I had his number, I would call him. (I don't have his number now, so it's impossible for me to call him).

Exercise C: Use II conditional.

1 If I	(meet) the Queen of England, I	(say) hello.	
2 She	(travel) all over the world if she	(be) rich.	
3 She	(pass) the exam if she ever	(study).	
4 If I	(have) enough money I	(buy) a house with	
twenty bedrooms and a swimming pool.			
5 We	(go) abroad if we	(have) got the passports.	

Exercise D: Use the correct conditional O, I or II.

1 If she (have) her laptop with her, she (email) me.			
2 If she (not/go) to the meeting, I (not/go) either.			
3 If the teacher (give) us lots of homework this weekend,			
I(not/be) happy.			
4 If Lucy (have) enough time, she (travel) more.			
5 If the children (not/eat) soon, they (be) grumpy.			
6 When it (be) winter, it often (snow).			
7 If I (not/go) to bed soon, I (be) tired in the morning.			
8 If I (want) a new car, I (buy) one.			

Odpowiedzi

A

- 1 wake up, am
- 2 cooks, burns
- 3 eat, get
- 4 bite, are
- 5 buys, goes

В

- 1 have, will buy
- 2 will be, is
- 3 will miss, doesn't leave
- 4 see, will tell
- 5 sit, will get

C

- 1 met, would say
- 2 would travel, was
- 3 would pass, studied
- 4 had, would buy
- 5 would go, had

D

- 1 had, would emailed
- 2 doesn't go, won't go
- gives, won't be
- 4 had, would travel
- 5 don't eat, will be
- 6 is, snows
- 7 don't go, will be
- 8 wanted, would buy