Conditionals

Conditionals describe situations and their possible outcomes. There are four types: zero, first, second, and third conditionals. Each serves a different purpose and follows specific grammatical rules.

1. Zero Conditional

Usage: Describes general truths or facts that are always true.
Structure: If + present simple, present simple.

Examples:
If you heat water to 100°C, it boils.
If you mix red and blue, you get purple.
If the sun sets, it gets dark.
If it rains, the ground gets wet.
If you don't water plants, they die.
If you press this button, the light turns on.
If you eat too much sugar, you gain weight.
If you touch fire, it burns you.
If students work hard, they succeed.
If iron is exposed to water, it rusts.

2. First Conditional

Usage: Describes real or likely situations in the future.
Structure: If + present simple, will + base verb.

Examples:
If it rains tomorrow, we'll cancel the picnic.
If you study, you'll pass the exam.
If she calls, I'll answer.
If they arrive late, they'll miss the meeting.
If I find your book, I'll let you know.
If he trains harder, he'll win the race.
If we leave now, we'll catch the bus.
If you help me, I'll finish faster.
If they don't hurry, they'll be late.
If you eat healthy food, you'll feel better.

3. Second Conditional

Usage: Describes hypothetical or unreal situations in the present or future.
Structure: If + past simple, would + base verb.

Examples:
If I were you, I would apologise.
If she had more time, she would travel.
If we won the lottery, we would buy a house.
If he studied harder, he would pass the test.
If they lived closer, we would visit them more often.
If I knew French, I would apply for the job.
If he drove carefully, he wouldn't have accidents.
If it snowed in July, people would be surprised.
If I had a car, I would drive to work.
If she were taller, she would play basketball.

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4. Third Conditional

Usage: Describes past situations that did not happen and their imagined outcomes.
Structure: If + past perfect, would have + past participle.

Examples:
If I had studied, I would have passed the exam.
If she had called, I would have answered.
If we had left earlier, we would have caught the train.
If they had invited us, we would have gone.
If he had practised, he would have played better.
If it had rained, the picnic would have been cancelled.
If I had known, I would have helped.
If they had worked harder, they would have succeeded.
If she had seen the message, she would have replied.
If he had been careful, he wouldn't have fallen.

Table of Conditionals

Conditional	Usage	Structure	Example
Zero Conditional	General truths or facts	If + present simple, present simple	If you heat water, it boils.
First Conditional	Real or likely situations in the future	If + present simple, will + base verb	If it rains, we'll cancel the picnic.
Second Conditional	Hypothetical/unreal situations	If + past simple, would + base verb	If I had a car, I would drive to work.
Third Conditional	Imagined outcomes of past situations	If + past perfect, would have + past participle	If I had studied, I would have passed.

Activity:

1. If you mix yellow and blue, you ___ green.

get
got
would get

2. If I ___ you, I would apologise.

am
were
will be

3. If it rains tomorrow, we ___ indoors.

stayed
will stay
would stay

4. If I had studied, I ___ the test.

will pass
would pass
would have passed

5. If the ice melts, it ___ into water.

turns
turned
would turn

6. If I ___ a million pounds, I would travel the world.

have
had
will have

7. If they ___ earlier, they would have arrived on time.

left
had left
would leave

8. If you ___ exercise, you will feel better.

do
did
had done

9. If I ___ her, I will tell her the news.

see
saw
had seen

10. If he had been more careful, he ___ fallen.

wouldn't have
won't have
wouldn't be

11. If she ___ the bus, she'll be late.

misses
missed
had missed

12. If I ___ rich, I would buy a mansion.

am
were
will be

13. If you touch a hot stove, it ___ you.

burns
burnt
would burn

14. If we ___ more time, we could have finished the project.

have
had
had had

15. If it ___ tomorrow, we'll stay home.
rains
rained
had rained

16. If I ___ you, I would call her.

was
were
am

17. If he ___ harder, he will pass the test.

works
worked
had worked

18. If we had taken a taxi, we ___ on time.

would arrive
would have arrived
will arrive

19. If you ___ the instructions, you'll understand.

follow
followed
had followed

20. If he ___ the truth, he would not be in trouble.

tells
told
had told