
First Conditional Sentences

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1. Use

It's used to talk about things which the speaker thinks could easily come true in the future

2. Form

if clause

Simple Present

main clause

will-future

infinitive

Modal + infinitive

3. Examples

if clause

If I **get** a job,
If you **see** Susan,
If you **are** on time,

main clause

I **will earn** some money.
tell her to call me.
we **can see** the early film.

The if-clause can be at the beginning or at the end of a sentence.

if clause

If I **get** a job,

main clause

I **will earn** some money.

main clause
I **will earn** some money,

if clause
If I **get** a job.

4. Zero Conditional and First Conditional

The zero conditional describes what happens in *general* whereas the first conditional describes a *particular* situation.

For example (zero conditional): If you touch fire, you get burned (here I'm talking about every time a person touches fire - the burning is a natural consequence of touching).

But (first conditional): If you touch the fire, you'll get burned (here I'm talking about what will happen with this specific fire).

5. First Conditional and Second Conditional

The first conditional describes things that I think are likely to happen in the future, whereas the second conditional talks about things that I don't think will really happen. It's subjective; it depends on my point of view.

For example (first conditional): If he studies harder, he'll pass the test (I think it's possible he will study harder and so he'll pass).

But (second conditional): If he studied harder, he would pass the exam (I think that he won't study harder, or it's very unlikely, and so he won't pass).

Explanations

- [Conditional Sentences a Summary](#)
- [Zero Conditional Sentences](#)
- [First Conditional Sentences](#)
- [Second Conditional Sentences](#)
- [Third Conditional Sentences](#)
- [Mixed Conditionals](#)
- [If I were you or If I was you?](#)

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- [When or If](#)

Exercises

- [Exercises - Conditional Sentences](#)