

ENGLISH CONDITIONALS

A2-B2 | One-page grammar overview

Conditional sentences connect a condition with its result.

If this happens, that happens.

TYPE	MAIN USE	FORM	EXAMPLE
ZERO	Facts and things that are generally true	if + present simple, present simple	<i>If you heat ice, it melts.</i>
FIRST	A real or possible future situation	if + present simple, will + base verb	<i>If it rains tomorrow, we will stay home.</i>
SECOND	An imagined or unlikely present or future situation	if + past simple, would + base verb	<i>If I had more time, I would travel more.</i>
THIRD	A different imagined result in the past	if + past perfect, would have + past participle	<i>If we had left earlier, we would have caught the train.</i>
MIXED	A past condition with a present result	if + past perfect, would + base verb	<i>If I had studied medicine, I would be a doctor now.</i>

The result clause can come first: We will stay home if it rains tomorrow.

Use a comma when the if-clause comes first. Do not use a comma when it comes second.