

| type 1 | linker  | if-clause  | main clause  |
|--------|---|--|--|
|        | <b>If</b><br><b>Unless</b> (=if... not)<br><b>providing (that)</b><br>(=as long as) | present simple<br>present continuous<br>present perfect<br><i>would like</i> (=want) | <b>will (shall)</b> + infinitive<br>modal verbs: <b>can, could, may, might, must, have to, should...</b><br>imperative |

- First Conditionals are used when there is a possibility that the situation in the **if-clause** is true in the present or will happen in the future.  
*If you are hungry, I'll make you something to eat. (Are you hungry?)*  
*If it rains, I'll stay at home. (Will it rain?)*  
*If you see Maria, give her a message for me.*  
*If we have enough time, we can/ may/ must... write.*  
*If you want to lose weight, you should eat less.*  
*If you're working now, I'll come back later.*  
*Unless it has stopped raining, I won't go for a walk.*  
*If you'd like to come, I'll get a ticket for you.*  
*You can stay providing that you don't make a noise.*  
**We can also use "should" when we are less sure:**  
*If I should see Maria, I'll tell her.*

| type 2 | linker   | if-clause                      | main clause   |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|---|
|        | <b>If</b><br><b>providing (that)</b><br><b>Supposing</b> | past simple<br>past continuous | <b>would (should)</b> + infinitive<br><b>could</b> (=would be able to)<br><b>might</b> (=would perhaps) |

- Second Conditionals refer to hypothetical present or future situations.  
*If I had a lot of money, I'd travel around the world. (But I haven't got any.)*  
*If I were you, I'd apply for the job. (giving advice)*  
*If I had the right tools, I could repair the car. (=..., I would **be able to** repair...)*  
*If I won a lot of money, I might stop working. (=..., I would **perhaps** stop...)*  
*Supposing you won a lot of money, what would you do?*

| type 3 | linker                        | if-clause                                   | main clause   |
|--------|-------------------------------|---|---|
|        | <b>If</b><br><b>Supposing</b> | past perfect simple<br>past perfect contin. | <b>would have</b> + p. participle<br><b>could have</b> (=would have been able)<br><b>might have</b> (=would perhaps have) |

- Third Conditionals refer to a situation in past time which cannot be changed.  
*If you had taken plenty of vitamin C, you wouldn't have caught my cold.*  
*If I had had the right tools, I could have repaired the car.*  
*(=..., I would have **been able to** repair the car. )*  
*If I had won a lot of money, I might have stopped working.*  
*(=..., I would **perhaps** have stopped working.)*

| type 0  | linker                | if-clause      | main clause    |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | <b>If (=whenever)</b> | present simple | present simple |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Zero Conditionals refer to general truths:<br/>                     If you mix yellow and blue, you get green.<br/>                     (=Whenever you mix yellow and blue, you get green.)<br/>                     If flowers don't get any water, they die.<br/>                     If he asks me, I always help him.</li> </ul> |                       |                |                |

NOTE

- When the result of a past action is still noticeable, the main clause will have "*would + infinitive*":  
 If he hadn't worked hard, he wouldn't be rich.  
 (=He is rich because he worked hard.)
- What if...?** = What will happen/ would happen/ would have happened if...?  
 What if they don't pay us?  
 (=What will happen if they don't pay us?)
- We sometimes use other words to join two ideas instead of an if-clause:
  - **otherwise** = "if this doesn't happen/ didn't happen/ hadn't happened"  
 They'll pay us; otherwise we'll kill the boy.  
 (=If they don't pay us, we'll kill the boy.)  
 Her father pays the rent; otherwise she wouldn't be here.  
 (=If her father didn't pay the rent, she wouldn't be here.)  
 We were able to climb the tree; otherwise we would have hidden behind the tree. (=If we hadn't been able to climb the tree, we would have hidden behind the tree.)
  - **and**: Stay in bed for a few days and you'll be fine.  
 (=If you stay in bed for a few days, you'll be fine.)
  - **or (+else)** (=otherwise):  
 Don't try to lift that box or (else) you'll hurt yourself.