

CONDITIONALS – EXERCISES

Grammar 1: conditionals (overview)

2.1

1 Complete sentence b) in each pair so that it has a similar meaning to sentence a).

- 1 a) You won't pass your science test unless you do some serious revision.
b) If you _____ some serious revision, _____ fail your science test.
- 2 a) We didn't know then what Oliver would do with the chemistry set, but later on we wished we'd never given it to him.
b) If we _____ what he would do with it, we'd never have given Oliver the chemistry set.
- 3 a) I don't have access to the Internet, so I don't use my computer very much.
b) I _____ my computer more if I _____ access to the Internet.
- 4 a) Every time you press this button, extra milk is automatically added to your coffee.
b) The machine _____ to your coffee when you _____.
- 5 a) I want everyone who comes from London to stand up.
b) If _____ from London, _____.
- 6 a) Don't touch this light switch because it is very unstable and might give you an electric shock.
b) If _____ this light switch, it _____ give you an electric shock.

2 Complete these rules about conditional sentences.

- 1 To give additional meaning such as possibility and ability we use a modal verb such as _____, _____ and _____ instead of _____ or _____.
- 2 To express a general truth, we use *if/when* + present simple + _____.
- 3 To talk about something that is contrary to a fact in the past we use _____.
- 4 To talk about something that is unlikely or contrary to present facts we use _____.
- 5 We can use the imperative form in the _____ part of the conditional structure when we want to tell someone to do something.
- 6 To talk about something that is possible we use _____.

► Grammar reference p.194 (3.1)

2 Each of these sentences has a mistake with the conditional form. Find and correct the mistakes.

- 1 If you really want to keep up with scientific developments, you would have to read more!
- 2 If there were more information about science on television, there's a chance that young people should get interested in it.
- 3 There is a great offer on sci-fi books on the Internet – if you buy two, you got one free.
- 4 I would have done better at science when I was at school if I worked harder.
- 5 If I promised to take care of it, will you lend me your video mp3 player?
- 6 I wouldn't take that job unless I were you!
- 7 If he went to the party, he might have seen her there.
- 8 If you had taken up her offer of a lift, you might got home sooner.

3

1 Here are some areas of life in which major changes could happen in the near future. Discuss possible changes with a partner. Then make a sentence for each one beginning *If ...* and describing a probable consequence.

Example: *If cosmetic surgery becomes cheaper, more people will want to have it.*

cosmetic surgery: cheaper? more generally accepted?
television broadcasting: on mobile phones?
on computers? more advertising?
medicine: transplants? genetic engineering?

2 Here are some areas in which major changes are possible, but may be unlikely. Discuss possible changes in each of these areas with a partner. Then say what changes you think could happen and what the results would be.

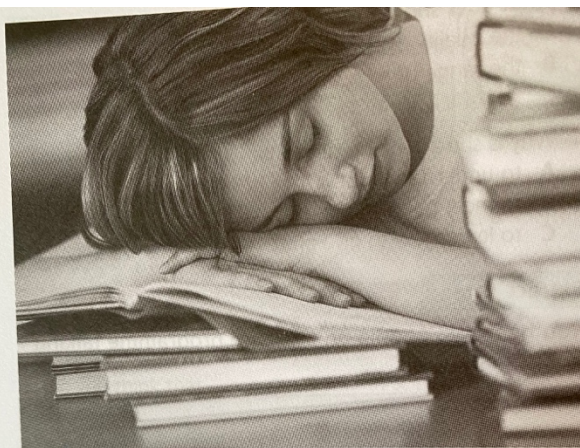
forms of transport ways of keeping in touch
ways of saving information

Example: *If cars were banned from city centres, there would be less pollution.*

3 Think how your life would have been different if these things had not been invented.

mobile phones cars computer games

Example: *If mobile phones hadn't been invented, I wouldn't have been able to call my friends so easily.*



1 Which sentence (i–iv) is about something that:

- a) is always true?
 - b) is possible?
 - c) is not true in the present and is unlikely or impossible in the future?
 - d) is imaginary in the past?
- i) If he had had a decent night's sleep he would have performed so much better.
 - ii) If you don't get enough sleep, you become ill.
 - iii) If we spent a third of our lives sleeping, we could accomplish so much more.
 - iv) If you've ever stayed up all night studying, you'll know how badly it can affect you.



You will hear three different extracts. For questions 1–6, choose the answer (A, B or C) which fits best according to what you hear. There are two questions for each extract.

Extract One

You overhear two friends, Phil and Miranda, chatting at a science conference.

- 1 How does Miranda feel about her job?
A disappointed with the salary
B keen to start doing more practical work
C optimistic about her chances of promotion
- 2 What drawback of his current teaching job does Phil mention?
A the constraints he works under
B the attitude of students
C the lack of facilities

Extract Two

You hear a married couple talking on the radio about their family life.

- 3 The man says that the only disadvantage of having such a large family is
A it restricts their ability to make long-term plans.
B it's hard to respond to each child's particular needs.
C it makes it difficult to do things on the spur of the moment.
- 4 The woman tells us about their holiday plans in order to stress that
A problems can occur wherever you go.
B children should be included in activities their parents enjoy.
C it's better not to be overambitious in planning family activities.

Extract Three

You overhear two work colleagues talking.

- 5 What is the man doing?
A apologising for something
B blaming someone else for something
C explaining how something happened
- 6 How does the woman react?
A She admits that she's had similar experiences.
B She advises him on a sensible course of action.
C She reassures him that he's done the right thing.