PRATIK DERS

Conditionals

Ders kategorisi: Mësimet në gjuhë angleze

> Master the zero, first, second, third and mixed conditionals with form, meaning and timeline for each. Covers unless, comma rules, and why will normally does not follow if, plus realistic examples and typical errors.

Conditionals

A conditional sentence has two parts: the **if-clause**, which states a condition, and the **main clause**, which states the result. English has five main patterns, and each one places the situation differently in time and in reality — from a scientific fact to something that never happened.

Learning objectives

- Recognise and build the five conditional patterns.
- Match each pattern to its meaning and timeline.
- Use *unless* correctly.
- Punctuate conditional sentences properly.
- Explain why *will* normally does not follow *if*.

The five patterns

Type	If-clause	Main clause	Meaning
Zero	present simple	present simple	always true, general fact
First	present simple	will + base	real, possible future
Second	past simple	would + base	unreal or unlikely present/future
Third	past perfect	would have + participle	impossible past, regret
Mixed	past perfect	would + base	past condition, present result

Zero conditional — facts

***If** you heat water to 100 degrees, it **boils**.*

- Used for scientific facts, general truths and rules that always apply.
- *If* can be replaced by *when* with almost no change in meaning.
- *If you don't water plants, they die.*

First conditional — real future possibility

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***If** it **rains**, we'**ll stay** at home.*

- The condition is genuinely possible.
- Instead of *will*, you can use *may, might, can, should* or an imperative: *If you see her, **tell** her to call me.*
- *If I finish early, I'll join you.*

Second conditional — unreal present or unlikely future

***If** I **had** more time, I **would learn** the piano.*

- The situation is imaginary, contrary to fact, or very unlikely.
- Formal English uses **were** for all subjects: *If I **were** you, I'd apologise.* In speech *was* is common.
- *If we won the lottery, we would travel the world.*

Third conditional — impossible past

***If** I **had known**, I **would have told** you.*

- The past cannot be changed; this expresses regret or criticism.
- *If she had studied, she would have passed.* — she didn't study, and she didn't pass.
- *Could have* and *might have* are also possible: *We might have won if we'd played better.*

Mixed conditional — past cause, present result

***If** I **had studied** medicine, I **would be** a doctor now.*

- The condition is in the past; the result belongs to the present.
- *If he hadn't missed the train, he would be here.*
- The reverse also occurs: *If I **were** more organised, I **would have finished** yesterday.*

Timelines

Type	Time of condition	Time of result	Real?
Zero	any time	any time	always true
First	future	future	possible
Second	present / future	present / future	unreal
Third	past	past	impossible
Mixed	past	present	impossible

Unless

Unless means roughly *if not*. It is followed by a **positive** verb:

- ***Unless** you hurry, you'll miss the bus. = If you don't hurry, you'll miss the bus.*
- *I won't go **unless** you come with me.*

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Do not write *unless you don't* — that produces a double negative.

Punctuation

Order	Comma?	Example
If-clause first	Yes	*If it rains**,** we'll stay in.*
Main clause first	No	*We'll stay in if it rains.*

Why not "if ... will"?

The word *if* already signals that the situation is hypothetical or future, so English does not mark the future again inside the if-clause. The same applies after *when, as soon as, until, before* and *after*.

Wrong	Right
If it will rain, we'll stay in.	**If it rains, we'll stay in.**
If you will come, I'll cook.	**If you come, I'll cook.**

There is one genuine exception: *will* after *if* is possible in polite requests — *If you **will** wait here, I'll fetch the manager.* Here *will* means "are willing to".

Common mistakes

Mistake	Correct	Why
If I will see him, I'll tell him.	**If I see him, I'll tell him.**	no *will* after *if*
If I would have known ...	**If I had known ...**	third conditional uses the past perfect
If I was you, I'd go. (formal writing)	**If I were you, I'd go.**	formal English prefers *were*
Unless you don't hurry ...	**Unless you hurry ...**	*unless* already means *if not*
We'll stay in, if it rains.	**We'll stay in if it rains.**	no comma when the main clause is first
If she studied, she would have passed.	**If she had studied, she would have passed.**	past condition needs the past perfect

Learning tips

1. Ask two questions: is it real or unreal, and is it past, present or future? Those two answers select the pattern.
2. Learn the pairs as fixed shapes: *present* + *will*, *past* + *would*, *past perfect* + *would have*.
3. Write one true sentence of each type about your own life; personal examples stick.

Summary checklist

- Have I chosen the right pattern for the time and the reality?
- Is there no *will* or *would* inside the if-clause?
- Does the third conditional use *had* + *participle* and *would have* + *participle*?

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- Is *unless* followed by a positive verb?
- Is the comma correct for the clause order?

Shpjegim në gjuhën shqipe

Rregulli i anglishtes, i shpjeguar në shqip

Fjalia kushtore ka dy pjesë: **fjalinë me if**, që tregon kushtin, dhe **fjalinë kryesore**, që tregon pasojën. Anglishtja ka pesë modele, secili me një kohë të caktuar dhe një shkallë të caktuar realiteti.

Kushtorja **zero** shpreh fakte gjithmonë të vërteta: *if* + e tashme, e tashme. Kushtorja e **parë** shpreh një mundësi reale në të ardhmen: *if* + e tashme, *will* + folja. Kushtorja e **dytë** shpreh diçka joreale ose të pamundur në të tashmen: *if* + e shkuar, *would* + folja. Kushtorja e **tretë** shpreh diçka që nuk ndodhi në të shkuarën: *if* + më se e kryer, *would have* + pjesore. Kushtorja e **përzier** lidh një kusht të shkuar me një pasojë të tashme.

Dy rregulla formale duhen mbajtur mend. I pari: pas *if* **nuk vendoset kurrë** *will* ose *would*, sepse vetë *if* e shënon kushtin. I dyti: kur fjalia me *if* qëndron e para, ndahet me **presje**; kur qëndron e dyta, presja nuk vihet.

Lidhëza **unless** do të thotë «nëse jo» dhe ndiqet nga një folje **pohore**.

Ekuivalenti në gjuhën shqipe

Shqipja ka një sistem kushtor shumë të ngjashëm, prandaj ky është një nga rastet ku folësit e shqipes kanë përparësi të qartë.

Lloji	Anglisht	Shqip
Zero	*If you heat water, it boils.*	**Nëse** nxeh ujin, ai vlon.
E parë	*If it rains, we'll stay at home.*	**Nëse** bie shi, **do të** rrimë në shtëpi.
E dytë	*If I had more time, I would learn the piano.*	**Po të kisha** më shumë kohë, **do të mësoja** piano.
E tretë	*If I had known, I would have told you.*	**Po ta kisha ditur**, **do të të kisha thënë**.
E përzier	*If I had studied medicine, I would be a doctor now.*	**Po të kisha studiuar** mjekësi, tani **do të isha** mjek.

Përputhja është pothuajse e plotë: *if* ≈ **nëse** ose **po të**, *will* ≈ **do të**, *would* ≈ **do të** + e pakryer, *would have* ≈ **do të kisha** + pjesore.

Ku ndryshojnë dy gjuhët

- **Pas «nëse».** Këtu të dyja gjuhët pajtohen: as shqipja nuk thotë *nëse do të mësosh*, por *nëse mëson*. Prandaj rregulli anglez «pa *will* pas *if*» duhet të jetë i lehtë për folësit e shqipes — dhe prapëseprapë gabohet shpesh nga ndikimi i gjuhëve të tjera.
- **Kushti joreal.** Shqipja e dallon me *po të* dhe *sikur*; anglishtja me kohën e shkuar. Forma angleze *If I were you* përdor *were* për të gjitha vetat në ligjërimin e kujdesshëm.
- **Presja.** Rregulli është i njëjtë në të dyja gjuhët: presje kur fjalia kushtore vjen e para.
- **Unless.** Shqipja nuk ka një fjalë të vetme; e shpreh me *nëse nuk* ose *veç nëse*. Prandaj lind gabimi *unless you don't*, që është mohim i dyfishtë.

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Gabime të zakonshme të folësve të shqipes

Gabimi	E saktë	Pse
If I will see him, I'll tell him.	**If I see him, I'll tell him.**	pa *will* pas *if*
If I would have known ...	**If I had known ...**	kushtorja e tretë kërkon më se të kryerën
Unless you don't hurry ...	**Unless you hurry ...**	*unless* do të thotë tashmë «nëse jo»
We'll stay in, if it rains.	**We'll stay in if it rains.**	pa presje kur fjalia kryesore vjen e para
If she studied, she would have passed.	**If she had studied, ...**	kushti i shkuar

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