

If + present, will + infinitive (first conditional) – A2

Main theme addressed	In this lesson, you will learn how to use the "if + present, will + infinitive" construction or first conditional.
Key Goals	<p>Here is an outline of what you will learn today:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How to form "if + present, will + infinitive" construction in various syntactic contexts. 2. How to recognize different contexts where first conditional is used. 3. How to form and use first conditional yourself.

1. How to form if + present, will + infinitive construction in various syntactic contexts

Conditionals describe the result of a particular **condition**.

The if clause tells you the **condition** (If you finish school) and the main clause tells you the **result** (you will get a diploma).

The meaning does not change if the order of the clauses changes.

Examples:

If you finish school, you will get a diploma.

= You will get a diploma if you finish school.

Conditional sentences are often divided into several types. Here we present the first conditional.

The first conditional

The first conditional is used when we talk about future situations we believe are real or possible.

In first conditional sentences, the structure is usually:

if/when + present simple >> will + infinitive.

Examples:

If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we will go out.

When I finish work, I'll call you.

The abbreviated version is e.g. we will > we'll, you will > you'll

You can also change the order of the clauses.

Example:

We will go out if it doesn't rain.

You **don't need a comma** between the clauses when the if clause comes **after** the result clause.

Compare:

With a comma: If I'm late tonight, my mom will be angry.

No comma: My mom will be angry if I'm late tonight.

Exercise:

Fill the gap by choosing the right alternative listed at the end of each sentence.

Circle the correct answer.

1. If I _____ the problem to my sister, she'll be happy to help me.
 - a) explain
 - b) explained
 - c) will explain
2. We'll be late for the film, if we _____.
 - a) didn't hurry up
 - b) won't hurry up
 - c) don't hurry up
3. If you _____ a new car now, you will not pay your debts this year.
 - a) buy
 - b) bought
 - c) will buy
4. I'll have a shower as soon as _____ home.
 - a) I get
 - b) I'll get
 - c) I'd get

2. How to recognize the contexts where the first conditional is used

The first conditional is also called the **possible conditional**.

It is used to talk about possible future events and their **likely** results.

They are used in the following contexts:

- **Predictions**

A prediction is a statement you make about what you think will happen in the future.

You can use the first conditional to say what you think will happen in a specific situation or in the event of a specific occurrence.

Examples:

If you don't hurry, we'll miss the bus.

If you stay out too late, you'll be tired tomorrow.

If you eat too much candy, you'll feel sick!

- **Superstitions**

A superstition is the belief that an event or situation will bring good luck or bad luck.

Examples:

If you see a black cat cross the street, you will have bad luck!

If you blow all your birthday candles and make a wish, it will come true!

- **Future plans**

You can use the first conditional sentence structure to make plans for the future if a specific event or situation happens first.

Examples:

If you go out tonight, I'll join you!

If I see Chris today, I'll wish him happy birthday.

If it rains tomorrow, I will take my umbrella.



- **Warnings and threats**

A warning is a statement about a possible impending problem or danger.

A threat is a statement that someone will harm you or cause you problems if you don't do what they tell you.

Examples:

If you don't stop for the red light, you'll get a fine.

If he doesn't call me tomorrow, I'll leave him.

If you touch my bag, I will hit you!

Exercise:

Are the following sentences predictions, superstitions, future plans or warnings and threats?

Write it below the sentence.

1. If you don't go to school, you'll be grounded!

_____.

2. If your dad sees you, he'll tell you to go home.

_____.

3. If it snows tomorrow, I'll wear a hat.

_____.

4. If you don't study, you won't get into a good university.

_____.

5. If you ever come back here, I'll punch you!

_____.

6. If you don't wear enough clothes, you'll get sick!

_____.

7. If I go home on the weekend, I'll visit my grandmother.

_____.

Exercise:

Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of first conditional.

1. If you (not/hurry), we will be late!

_____.

2. If Mary (pass) her exam, she will be happy.

_____.

3. However, if Mary fails, she (not/be) very happy.

_____.

4. If you stay out late, you (be) very tired tomorrow.

_____.

5. Tom (not/win) the lottery if he doesn't buy a ticket.

_____.

6. If it (not/rain) tomorrow, I will go for a walk.

_____.

7. We (not/go) to the restaurant if you're not hungry.

_____.

Exercise:

Complete the sentences with the appropriate form of first conditional.

Circle the correct answer.

1. If you fix my bike, I _____ you with the maths homework.
- **help / 'll help / helped**
2. It _____ too hot if he goes to Italy in August.
- **be / will be / was**
3. If the dog sits on the sofa, the cat _____ up.
- **jumps / jumping /will jump**
4. They will miss the film if they _____ a parking space.
- **don't find / won't find / didn't find**
5. If you _____ to Spain, I'll join you!
- **will travel / won't travel / travel**
6. I'll lend you my laptop if you _____ to be careful.
- **promise / promised / will promise**
7. If you squash the tomatoes, the sauce _____ better.
- **will be / has / is**

Exercise:

Write sentences using the prompts.

Example: To rain / I stay at home > If it rains, I will stay at home.

1. I finish my homework / I go to the cinema.

_____.

2. She eats too much / she feels nauseous.

_____.

3. The weather is nice / I go for a bicycle ride.

_____.

4. My room is cold / I catch a cold.

_____.

5. I tell Peter / he is angry.

_____.

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