

# English With Nimafar

## First Conditionals

### Overview:

- "First Conditionals" is an Intermediate Grammar topic.
- At the end of this lesson, you will be able to talk about first conditionals.

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## What is a Conditional?

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A conditional is a sentence that expresses a hypothetical situation and the likely outcome that would result if that situation were to occur.

## How many types of Conditionals do we have?

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There are four main types of conditionals in English:

- Zero Conditionals
- First Conditionals
- Second Conditionals
- Third Conditionals

Note: Mixed conditionals are another type of conditional sentence in English that combine elements from different types of conditionals.

In this PDF, we will be learning the first conditionals only.

Check other PDFs for other types of conditionals.

# First Conditionals

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First conditionals are a type of conditional sentences that express a possible or likely event or situation in the future, based on a certain condition in the present.

Examples:

- If you study hard, you will pass the exam.
- If it rains, we will stay indoors.
- If I have time, I will call you later.
- If you don't hurry, you will miss the bus.
- If she gets the job, she will move to a new city.
- If we finish early, we will have time to watch it.

## Clauses in Conditionals

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We have two clauses in conditional sentences.

1. **If Clause:** The clause which contains the word "if" and shows the condition (also known as "conditional clause"); The tense of the "if clause" is present simple in the first conditionals.
2. **Main Clause:** The clause which shows the results; The tense of the "main clause" is future simple in the first conditionals.

## Structure

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Let's have a review:

If clause (Present Simple)	Comma (,)	Main Clause (Future Simple)
If you study hard	,	You'll succeed.
Main Clause (Future Simple)	If clause (Present Simple)	_____
You'll succeed	If you study hard.	_____

Pay attention to the way of writing.

## Basic Examples

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- If I have time after work, I will go to the gym.
- We will stay indoors if it rains tomorrow.
- If you finish your homework tonight, you can watch TV.
- I will introduce myself if I see her at the party.
- If we leave now, we can make it to the movie on time.
- He will pass if he studies hard for the exam.
- If you come to the party, I will introduce you to my friends.

## The If Clause

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Here is the list of words you can use instead of "if" in the if clause:

- Unless = If not
- On the condition that
- When
- Provided that
- In case
- Providing that
- As long as

## The Main Clause

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Here is the list of modals that we can use in the main clause:

- **Shall:** In some cases, "shall" can be used interchangeably with "will" to express a future action or outcome. For example, "If you come to the party, I shall introduce you to my friends."
- **Could:** It is used to express a possibility or hypothetical situation but with a greater degree of uncertainty than "might". For example, "If I work hard this year, I could get a promotion."
- **Should:** It can be used to express a likely outcome that is conditional on something else happening. For example, "If you study hard, you should pass the exam."
- **Can:** It expresses a likely outcome. For example, "If I leave work on time, I can make it to the concert."
- **Might:** It is used to express a possibility or likelihood of something happening, but with less certainty than "will". For example, "If I have time after work, I might go to the gym."

# Examples with alternatives

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- In case you miss the train, call me and I'll pick you up.
- Should you need any help, feel free to ask me.
- Provided that it's not too expensive, I will buy the book.
- Unless you change your mind, we will meet at the restaurant tonight.
- As long as you are careful, you can try the new skateboard.
- If the weather holds up, we shall go on a picnic tomorrow.
- In the event that the flight is canceled, we will take the train.
- As soon as I finish my work, I will go for a walk.
- Should the flight be delayed, we will have to reschedule our meeting.
- In case you forget, I will remind you about the meeting tomorrow.

# Questions

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We can ask questions with conditionals. We use WH questions and start our sentence with the main clause (after the WH)

For example:

- If you go to bed early tonight, what will you do with the extra time in the morning?
- What will we do if we get there in good time?
- What will you do if your son doesn't study well?
- What will the government do if we don't pay our taxes?

Note: It's more common to ask questions with second conditionals.

# Imperatives

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We can make imperative sentences with the first conditionals. Instead of the if clause, we use imperative clauses.

Examples:

- If you want to pass your exams, study hard!
- If you don't want to get fired, get your act together and work!
- If you want to buy a new house, get a job!
- If you want to be a successful entrepreneur, take risks and pursue your ideas.
- If you want to reduce stress, practice mindfulness and relaxation techniques regularly.

Note: We **can** use an exclamation mark (!) in imperative sentences to emphasize that the speaker is giving orders to someone else

## Advanced Tip

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We use the **present continuous tense** - "*If you are working late tonight*" - to describe a temporary or ongoing situation. On the other hand, we use the **future perfect tense** - "*If you will have finished your work by then*" - to describe a hypothetical future situation that will be completed before another future event.

## Examples

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1. If it rains tonight, we will stay indoors and watch a movie.
2. If you study hard, you will pass the exam.
3. If we leave early, we can catch the next train.
4. If she is able to attend the meeting, she will provide an update on the project.
5. If they take our advice, they can avoid making the same mistake again.
6. If you eat too much, you will feel sick.
7. If I finish my work on time, I will leave the office early.
8. If he arrives on time, we can start the meeting without delay.
9. If you come to the party, I will introduce you to my friends.
10. If we don't book our tickets in advance, we might not get seats on the train.
11. If you win a million dollars, what is the first thing you would buy?
12. If you want to get over your fear of public speaking, practice in front of a mirror every day.
13. If you want to improve your fitness, start running three times a week.
14. If you want to pass the exam, study hard every day.
15. If you want to be a successful entrepreneur, take risks and pursue your ideas.
16. If you want to have a clean house, clean up a little each day.
17. If you want to avoid getting sick, wash your hands frequently and practice good hygiene.
18. If you want to master a new skill, practice it consistently every day.
19. If you want to be a better listener, actively engage in conversations and ask questions.
20. If you want to achieve your goals, set clear and specific action steps and work towards them every day.

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