

The Basics

- Teacher's Insights -

At a Glance

- 60 minutes
- **B1**, **B2**
- **©** Zero, First, Second, and Third Conditionals

Preparation

- O-5 minutes
- Print one worksheet for each student.
- You may wish to print the Teacher's Insights to keep the teaching tips at hand.

Exercise Summary

Kickoff: speaking intro

Journey to the Amazon Rainforest - Zero Conditional

A Trip to Paris - First Conditional

Fantasy Journey to Outer Space - Second Conditional

Historical Journey to Ancient Rome - Third Conditional

Exercises: each conditional comes with an explanation, five pictures, examples, things to take into account, and exercises for practice

Kickoff: Ask and answer the questions:

① This activity is designed to introduce the two topics and allow all students to arrive. Through this exercise, you'll be able to gauge students' current understanding the conditionals and be able to estimate how much time to spend on each.

- 1. Do you know what the Conditional Tenses are?
- 2. Do you like to travel? What interesting places have you travelled to?

Zero, First, Second, and Third Conditionals

① These instructions apply for the following four sections: Zero, First, Second, and Third Conditionals. Each section follows the same basic structure, so it will be familiar for students as the conditionals get more difficult.

You should aim to spend ten minutes on each section in a 60-minute class. However, if you see that your students are having trouble, do not rush them. As each conditional is on a separate page, if you feel that the Second or Third conditional will be too difficult for them, you can save it for a later date.

Begin by reading the introduction to each conditional or having the students read it aloud. Ask Concept Checking Questions (CCQs) to ensure students understand. In each section, there are also "things to note" which form part of the explanation, such as how "if" and "when" can be swapped in the Zero Conditional. Make sure to ask CCQs for these, too.

Conclude each section by getting the students to make their own sentences and complete the activities, either in pairs or in groups (or with you in a one-to-one class).

Note that more complicated forms, such as the "should" form of the second conditional, are not included in this worksheet as it is designed to be a step-by-step introduction to the main conditional forms and their uses.



The Basics

Journey to the Amazon Rainforest - Zero Conditional











The Zero Conditional is used when the result of the condition is always true. Think of it as a universal law or scientific fact.

This conditional is formed as follows: If + present simple, present simple.

Example: "If you look up in the Amazon, you see monkeys swinging in the trees."

There are a couple of important things to take into account with the Zero Conditional.

- One is that you can swap "if" for "when" and the meaning is very similar. So, the two sentences, "If it rains, the animals take shelter" and "When it rains, the animals take shelter" are basically the same.
- This conditional can also be used with an imperative structure in the main clause. The
 imperative is used to give orders or advice. For example, "If you see a jaguar, stay calm and
 don't run away."

Questions:

- 1. Caption one of the images: "If you..."
- Create a travel advisory using the zero conditional:
 "Dear Traveler, remember, when ______ in the Amazon Rainforest, _____."
 (present simple + present simple)
- 3. Complete the story: Sarah is lost in the jungle. She knows that if....
- 4. Create your own zero conditional sentence related to the Amazon Rainforest.
- 5. Answer the question: What happens when humans destroy large areas of the rainforest?





The Basics

A Trip to Paris - First Conditional











The First Conditional is used when there is a real possibility that the condition will happen. It's often used to express future scenarios based on present circumstances.

This conditional is formed as follows: If + present simple, will + infinitive.

Example: "If I visit Paris, I will try all the delicious pastries."

There are a couple of important things to take into account with <u>all the conditionals</u>. You can swap the clauses and the conditional still makes sense. In this case, you can remove the comma between the clauses.

"If I visit paris, I will try all the pastries." = "I will try all the pastries if I visit Paris."

Before moving on to the questions, which of the following is in the first conditional?

- A. "If you stand on the top of Montmartre, you get a panoramic view of Paris."
- B. "If you visit Paris in the spring, you will see beautiful flowers in the parks."

Questions:

- 1. Caption one of the images: "If you visit Paris,..."
- 2. Write a postcard message using the first conditional: "Dear friend, if you ______ in Paris, you will _____."
- 3. Complete the story: Pierre is planning his day in Paris. If the weather stays clear, he will...
- 4. Create your own first conditional sentence related to your trip to Paris.
- 5. Answer the question: What will you do if you get two weeks' holiday this summer?





The Basics

Fantasy Journey to Outer Space - Second Conditional











The Second Conditional is used to talk about unreal situations or very unlikely events. This is where we can let our imaginations run wild, just like exploring the cosmos.

This conditional is formed as follows: If + past simple, would + infinitive.

Example: If I could travel to space, I would walk on the moon.

Something interesting to note is that 'could' has two meanings: it is the past of 'can'; and it also means 'would be able to'. Therefore, 'could' may appear on both sides of the conditional. Take note of this in the following examples:

- A. "If I could travel to space, I would take hundreds of amazing photos." In this example, you can replace 'could' with 'were able to'.
- B. "If I had enough money, I could train to become an astronaut." In this example, you can replace 'could' with 'would be able to'.

It's also common to say 'were' instead of 'was' in the 'if' clause. So, we say, "If I were rich, I'd buy a mansion by the sea."

You can also use other modal verbs when working with the second conditional. For example, "If I found a million dollars, I might buy a house." (might = less certainty)

Ouestions:

- 1. Caption one of the images: "If I could visit that place,..."
- 2. Compose a second conditional message to an alien:

"Dear Extraterrestrial, If I had the chance to visit your planet, ...

- 3. Complete the story: Alex the astronaut is dreaming about his next mission. If he...
- 4. Create your own second conditional sentence about a journey to outer space.
- 5. Answer the question: If you had the chance to go to space, would you take it?





The Basics

Historical Journey to Ancient Rome - Third Conditional











The Third Conditional is used to talk about unreal situations in the past. It lets us imagine what could have happened if circumstances had been different.

This conditional is formed as follows: If + past perfect, would have + past participle.

Example: "If I had lived in Ancient Rome, I would have seen the gladiators fight."

Similar to the second conditional, you can use other modal verbs in the result clause to express varying degrees of certainty. These often express a less definite outcome or possibility. For example, "If he had studied harder, he might have passed the exam." (Using "might" or "may" means that it is still not definite that he would have passed the exam.)

Ouestions:

- 1. Caption one of the images: "If I had been in Ancient Rome,..."
- 2. Write a third conditional sentence related to a historical event: "If _____ had happened in Ancient Rome, ..."
- 3. Complete the story: Marcus was daydreaming about Ancient Rome. If he'd been born there...
- 4. Create your own third conditional sentence about living in Ancient Rome.
- 5. Answer the question: If you'd been born in Ancient Rome, how do you think your life would have been different?

