**First Conditional: real possibility**

We are talking about the future. We are thinking about a particular condition or situation in the future, and the result of this condition. There is a real possibility that this condition will happen.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **IF** | **condition** | **result** |
|  | **present simple** | **WILL + base verb** |
| If | I see Mary | I will tell her. |
| If | Tara is free tomorrow | he will invite her. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **result** | **IF** | **condition** |
| **WILL + base verb** |  | **present simple** |
| I will tell Mary | if | I see her. |
| He will invite Tara | if | she is free tomorrow. |

**Zero Conditional: certainty**

We use the so-called **zero conditional** when the result of the condition is always true, like a scientific fact.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **IF** | **condition** | **result** |
|  | **present simple** | **present simple** |
| If | you heat ice | it melts. |

**Second Conditional: unreal possibility or dream**

The **second conditional** is like the first conditional. We are still thinking about the future. We are thinking about a particular condition in the future, and the result of this condition. But there is **not** a real possibility that this condition will happen. For example, you do **not** have a lottery ticket. Is it possible to win? No! No lottery ticket, no win! But maybe you will buy a lottery ticket in the future. So you can think about winning in the future, like a dream. It's not very real, but it's still possible.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **IF** | **condition** | **result** |
|  | **past simple** | **WOULD + base verb** |
| If | I won the lottery | I would buy a car. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **result** | **IF** | **condition** |
| **WOULD + base verb** |  | **past simple** |
| I would be happy | if | I married Mary. |
| She would marry Ram | if | he became rich. |
| Would you be surprised | if | it snowed next July? |
| What would you do | if | it snowed next July? |

**Conditionals: Summary**

Here is a chart to help you to visualize the basic English conditionals. Do not take the 50% and 10% figures too literally. They are just to help you.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **probability** | | **conditional** | **example** | **time** |
| 100% | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | zero conditional | If you heat ice, it melts. | any time |
| 50% | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | first conditional | If it rains, I will stay at home. | future |
| 10% | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | | second conditional | If I won the lottery, I would buy a car. | future |
| 0% |  | third conditional | If I had won the lottery, I would have bought a car. |  |

**Conditionals Quiz**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | What would you do if it \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to rain)on your wedding day? |  |
| 2 | If she comes I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to call) you. |  |
| 3 | If I eat peanut butter I \_\_\_\_\_\_ (to get)sick. |  |
| 4 | What will you do if you \_\_\_\_(to fail)the history exam? |  |
| 5 | If they had not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to take) the car I would have driven you. |  |
| 6 | If it snows still \_\_\_\_\_\_-(to drive)to the coast? |  |
| 7 | He would have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_(to go) with you if you had asked him. |  |
| 8 | If I won a million dollars I--------(to buy) my own airplane. |  |
| 9 | If I forget her birthday Andrea\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (to get) upset. |  |
| 10 | Jacob will pick you up at school if it\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(to rain) . |  |