

Conditional sentences

We can use if to combine two clauses. Study the example given below.

I drop this glass. It will break.

If I drop this glass, it will break.

The sentence given above is an example of a Type 1 conditional sentence. It refers to a real and possible situation.

In this case, we use a simple present tense in the if-clause and will + infinitive in the main clause.

Type 2 conditional sentences are used to talk about situations that are unlikely to occur.

I would buy a home if I won the lottery.

In type 2 conditional sentences, we use a simple past tense in the if-clause and would + infinitive in the main clause.

Type 3 conditional sentences are used to talk about imaginary situations.

He did not invite her. She didn't come.

Now let's imagine what would happen if he invited her.

She would have come if he had invited her.

The sentence given above is an example of a type 3 conditional sentence. In a type 3 conditional sentence, we use would have + past participle in the main clause and a past perfect tense in the if-clause.

In Zero conditional sentences, we use a present tense in both clauses. These refer to situations that are always true.

Combine the following sentences using if.

1. He wants to pass the test. He has to work harder.

Conditional sentences

2. You may meet him. Then please ask him to come over here.

3. You should work hard. Then you will get good marks.

4. You have to invite her. She will come.

5. Obey the rules. Otherwise, you will be persecuted.

Answers

1. If he wants to pass the test, he has to work harder.

2. If you meet him, ask him to come over here.

3. If you work hard, you will get good marks.

4. If you invite her, she will come.

5. If you do not obey the rules, you will be persecuted.