

THIRD CONDITIONAL

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THIRD CONDITIONAL (1)

The first conditional and second conditional talk about the future. The **third conditional** talks about the **past**, a condition in the past that did **not** happen. That is why **there is no possibility** for this condition.

IF	CONDITION	RESULT
	PAST PERFECT	WOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
If	I had won the lottery	I would have bought a car.

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THIRD CONDITIONAL (2)

We can use the Third Conditional to talk about 'impossible' conditions, impossible because they are in the past and we cannot change what has happened.

- If I had worked harder at school, I would have got better grades.
- If I had had time, I would have gone to see him. But I didn't have time.
- If we had bought that house, we would have had to rebuild the kitchen.
- If we had caught the earlier train, we would have got there on time but we were late.

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THIRD CONDITIONAL (3)

It's used to describe a situation that didn't happen, and to imagine the result of this situation.

- If she **had studied**, she **would have passed** the exam.
- If I **hadn't eaten** so much, I **wouldn't have felt** sick.
- If we **had taken** a taxi, we **wouldn't have missed** the plane.
- She **wouldn't have been** tired if she **had gone** to bed earlier.
- She **would have become** a teacher if she **had gone** to university.

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WITH MODALS

Sometimes, we use **should have**, **could have**, **might have** instead of **would have**:

- If you had bought a lottery ticket, you might have won.
- If I had seen him at the meeting, I would have asked him. (But he wasn't there so I didn't.)
- If I had seen him at the meeting, I could have asked him. (But he wasn't there so it wasn't possible.)
- If I had seen him at the meeting, I might have asked him. (But I'm not sure. Perhaps if the opportunity had arisen.)
- If I had paid more attention in class, I would have understood the lesson.

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• He crashed his car, because he fell asleep while driving.
a) If he _____ asleep while driving, he _____ his car.

• We couldn't go to the concert, because we didn't have enough money.
b) If we _____ enough money, we _____ to the concert.

• I lost my job because I was late for work.
c) I _____ my job if I _____ late for work.

• The wind was so strong that the bridge collapsed.
d) If the wind _____ so strong, the bridge _____.

• I couldn't call Sally because I had lost her number.
e) I _____ Sally if I _____ her number.

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- 1) If you (not/be) late, we (not/miss) the bus.
- 2) If she (study) she (pass) the exam.
- 3) If we (arrive) earlier, we (see) John.
- 4) If they (go) to bed early, they (not/wake) up late.
- 5) If he (become) a musician, he (record) a CD.
- 6) If she (go) to art school, she (become) a painter.

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- 7) If I (be) born in a different country, I (learn) to speak a different language.
- 8) If she (go) to university, she (study) French.
- 9) If we (not/go) to the party, we (not/meet) them.
- 10) If he (not/take) the job, he (go) travelling.
- 11) He (be) happier if he (stay) at home.
- 12) She (pass) the exam if she (study) harder.

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- 13) We (not/get) married if we (not/go) to the same university.
- 14) They (be) late if they (not/take) a taxi.
- 15) She (not/meet) him if she (not/come) to London.
- 16) He (take) a taxi if he (have) enough money.
- 17) I (call) you if I (not/forget) my phone.
- 18) We (come) if we (be) invited.
- 19) She (not/do) it if she (know) you were ill.
- 20) He (be) on time if he (leave) earlier.

- 1) If I (know) it, I (help) her.
- 2) If you (drive) carefully, you (not have) that accident.
- 3) You already (finish) if you (begin) before.
- 4) If she (send) a letter to John, he (answer) soon.
- 5) If we (hide) our emotion, Mary (not understand) the truth.
- 6) We (go) to Venice if it (not rain).
- 7) If they (book) the hotel in April, they (save) a lot of money.
- 8) We (go) skiing if it (snow).
- 9) If he (cook), she (come) out with us.
- 10) If you (buy) a new car, you (not spend) a lot of money to repair this one.

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- 1) If he (pay) the bill, the police (not arrest) him.
- 2) Peter (give) his keys to Carole if she (forget) hers.
- 3) If you (give) the right information, we (not get lost).
- 4) If Ann (call), they (tell) it to her.
- 5) If we (borrow) Jim's boat, we (repair) the wheel.
- 6) Alice (travel) round the world if she (study) languages.
- 7) If you (hide) my whiskey, I (be) so angry.
- 8) John (live) in Paris if he (leave) London.
- 9) If I (let) Marion leave, she (lose) her last chance.

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- 1) Mary (work) for a top company if she (learn) Chinese.
- 2) The big tree (kill) someone if it (fall).
- 3) If they (leave) early, they (not find) this jam.
- 4) Peter and Ann (stay) home if it (freeze).
- 5) Kevin (not buy) new glasses if he (find) his.
- 6) If she (mow) the grass, her father (pay) her.
- 7) We (finish) our work if you (wake up) early.
- 8) If you (become) a lawyer, you (defend) us.
- 9) You (save) a lot of money if you (not bet).

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- 1) If they (build) the house last year, I (help) them.
- 2) If you (bring) some beer, we (drink) all night.
- 3) If I (choose) a smaller house, I (save) more than £ 20,000.
- 4) If they (deal) with that problem, they (not have) those difficulties.
- 5) Your teacher (not be) angry if you (do) your homework.
- 6) If you (not fall), you (not break) your wrist.
- 7) I (come) back home alone if I (not drink).
- 8) If he (not fight) against Peter, his friends (think) he was a coward.
- 9) If she (not overcome) fear, she (not help) her cousin.

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- 1) If you (send) that telegram, you (not see) her.
- 2) You (earn) more money if you (wash) more cars.
- 3) If we (go) by car, we (not enjoy) this holiday.
- 4) If they (learn) German, they (not pay).
- 5) If you (lose) that match, you (not play) against Spain.
- 6) Tom (arrive) before lunchtime if he (catch) the 7.40 train.
- 7) If you (hide) your ring, the thief (not steal) it.
- 8) They (understand) the problem if we (tell) the story.
- 9) If she (listen) to the radio, she (not leave).
- 10) If we (not misunderstand), we (see) at noon.

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- 1) If they (give) her their keys, she (clean) their house at the weekend.
- 2) If she (drive) faster, we (arrive) in less than three hours.
- 3) Maria (not meet) that guy if she (understand).
- 4) If he (light) the room, he (not stumble).
- 5) If you (read) the instructions, you (not have) any problem to assemble the wardrobe.
- 6) If she (sell) her house, she (move) to New York.
- 7) You (not change) mind if you (swear).
- 8) If she (sing), she (win) the contest.
- 9) If I (swim) for three miles, I (enter) for the race.
- 10) Peter (understand) his responsibility if you (weep).

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1. If you _____ to the party, you would have seen me.
 - a) went
 - b) have gone
 - c) had gone
 - d) go
2. If she had listened to me, she _____ problems.
 - a) will not have
 - b) would not had
 - c) would not have
 - d) would not have had
3. I _____ milk at the store last night.
 - a) should buy
 - b) should bought
 - c) should have bought
 - d) should have buy
4. If he _____ the opportunity, he could have gone.
 - a) has
 - b) had
 - c) have had
 - d) had had

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5. I would have cleaned the house if I _____ you were coming.
 - a) knew
 - b) know
 - c) have known
 - d) had known
6. They _____ the books if you had told them.
 - a) bring
 - b) brought
 - c) would bring
 - d) would have brought
7. _____ started the project if you had known it was due on Monday?
 - a) Would you have
 - b) Had you
 - c) Would have you
 - d) Would you
8. What _____ if you had been me?
 - a) would you done
 - b) would you have did
 - c) would you have done
 - d) would you had done

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Sources

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