

Class - VIIISubject - English LanguageChapter - 21 Conditional Sentences

Good morning students

Today we will be discussing the topic 'Conditional Sentences' as a part of your English Language assignment. This topic is given in your English Language book titled 'Collins English Grammar and Composition'. Now let us start with the topic Conditional Sentences. Students pay attention as this topic is new for you. We have done Clauses in previous term so it will help you to understand the Conditional Sentences. Students all of you know about clauses in this lesson you will learn that a conditional sentence has two clauses. One of the clause in such sentences lays down the condition for the action indicated in the second clause.

Example -

- If you qualify the written test, you will get a job.

In the above sentence, for one of the clauses (if you qualify the written test)

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lays down the condition for the action expressed in the second clause (you will get this job).

* A conditional sentence is one in which one of the clauses lays down the condition for the action expressed in the second clause to be performed.

- A conditional sentence has two clauses.

i. the 'if' clause

ii. the main clause

In ^{the} sentence we have discussed above -

- If you qualify the written test. (is the if clause)

- You will get this job. (is the main clause)

Students, here you have learnt that the conditional sentences are made up of two clauses: the subordinate clause or if clause - which contains the condition and the main clause that contains the outcome if the condition is fulfilled.

* Conditionals are used to describe General truth and Scientific facts -
Examples

- If you love others, others love you
(general truth)

- If you lift the receiver and dial a number, a bell starts ringing at the other end. (Scientific fact)

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★ Types of Conditional Sentences

★ The Zero Conditional -

Zero conditional is used to describe general truth and scientific facts.

Syntax - If + simple present + simple present

Examples -

- If it is cloudy, it rains.

- If you touch a naked electric wire, you get a shock.

★ The First Conditional

We use the first conditional to express something that is likely to take place.

So, these conditionals are also called probable or likely conditionals. In these sentences the possibility of the condition being fulfilled is very high.

Syntax - If + simple present + will / will not

- The probable conditionals are used for things that are likely to occur.

Example

- If you take a proper diet, you will recover soon.

- It is also used to give permission, make a request, give an advice or command or to show ability.

Example

- If you want to participate in a quiz, work hard.

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★ Second Conditional

We use the second conditional to express something that is unlikely to happen. In these sentences, it is possible to fulfil the condition, but it is unlikely to happen.

Syntax - If + simple past + would

- The if clause indicates unreal situations in the second conditional.

Examples

- If I were a king, I would build a castle.
- If she were here, she would definitely throw a party.
- In the main clause we can also use might or could instead of would.

Examples

- If she had a piece of land, she could build a new house there.
- If I had enough time, I could love to watch the match.

★ The Third Conditional

We use the third conditional for the actions that are impossible to happen.

The condition cannot be fulfilled because the main clause refers to an event that has already occurred.

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Syntax - If + past perfect + would / could + have + V₃

Examples

- If he had taken a taxi, he would have reached the airport on time.
- If you had prepared well, you would have cleared the entrance test.

★ Conditional without using 'If'

We have done that conditional sentences are usually written with 'if'. However, it is possible to write conditional clauses without 'if' too. We use words like had, provided, in case and unless instead of if.

Examples

- Had I worked hard, I would have topped the class.
- Had the mission failed, he would have blamed his leader.
- Alright students, we have done with the topic conditional sentences. All of you are required to revise the given content carefully and attempt exercises A to D on page numbers 127 to 130 as a part of your home assignment.
- Answers to the home assignment will be provided to you in the answer key on Thursday. Thank you.

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