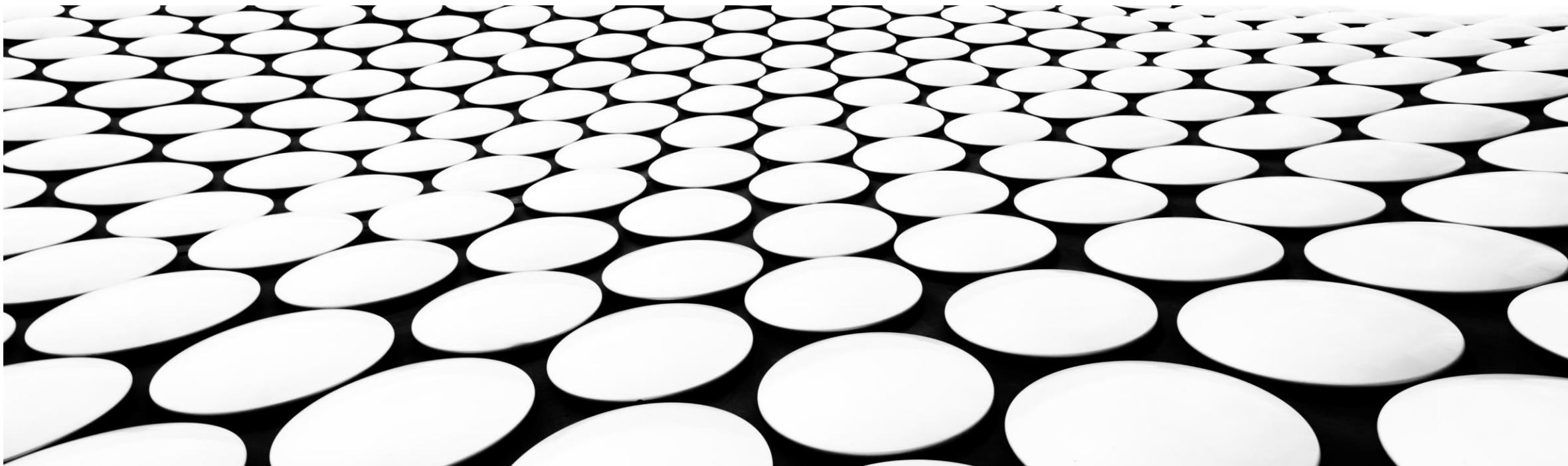

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

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2019-20



STRUCTURE

- As a rule, conditional sentences in English consist of two parts – the main part and the *if* part (or the conditional part).
- These types of sentences are used to express possible or imaginary situations.
- The order of these two parts of the sentence isn't important. The main clause usually comes first. If you place the conditional clause first, you need to add a comma.
- When written, if the *if* part of the sentence comes first, a comma should be used to separate it from the second part.

TYPE ZERO CONDITIONAL SENTENCES (ZERO CONDITION)

- This type of conditional sentence is used to describe scientific facts, generally known truths, events and other things that are always true.
- It's the simplest type of conditional sentence in English.
- **The structure of Type Zero conditional sentences:**
- Main part: Present Simple; *if* part: Present Simple
- Examples:
 - Water **boils** if you **heat** it to 100 degrees Celsius.
 - A red light **comes** on if you **press** the main button.
- In Type Zero sentences, *if* can be replaced by *when*.
- Examples:
 - **When** you heat ice, it **melts**.
 - It **gets** dark **when** the sun **goes** down.

TYPE ONE CONDITIONAL SENTENCES (OPEN CONDITION)

- This type of sentence expresses real and possible situations in the future; it is possible for the condition to be met.
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- The structure of Type One conditional sentences:
- Main part: will + infinitive; *if* part: Present Simple
- Examples:
 - We **will stay** at home **if** it snows.
 - She **will get** angry **if** I'm late for the party.
 - **If** we **get** the money for this job, we **will** buy a new car.
 - **Will** you **help** Amanda **if** she asks you?

TYPE TWO CONDITIONAL SENTENCES (HALF-OPEN CONDITION)

- This type of conditional sentence describes an unreal situation with regard to the present or future; a hypothetical condition that can only be fulfilled in theory.
- **The structure of Type Two conditional sentences:**
- Main part: would + infinitive; *if* part: Past Simple
- In conditional sentences, the past tense form of the verb *to be* is *were* for all persons; *was* is also used, although only in spoken or conversational English.
- Examples:
 - We **would stay** at home **if** it **snowed**.
 - I **would buy** a new board **if** I **had** more money.
 - If he **were** rich, he'd **buy** an island.
 - If you **left** now, you'd **catch** the last bus.

CONDITIONAL II

- Type two conditional sentences are also used when making polite requests.
- Examples:
 - I **would be** grateful if you **helped** me.
 - He **would be** so pleased if you **came** to the birthday party.
- The phrases *If I were you* or *If I were in your place* are usually used to give advice.
- Examples:
 - If I **were you** I would accept the offer.
 - If he **were in your place** he would do it.

TYPE THREE CONDITIONAL SENTENCES (CLOSED CONDITION)

- Type three conditional sentences are used to express situations that cannot exist, such as actions or events that happened in the past. They are often used to indicate a missed opportunity.
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- The structure of Type Three conditional sentences:
- Main part: would + perfect infinite; *if* part: Past Perfect
- Examples:
 - If you **hadn't been late** for work, the boss **wouldn't have gotten** furious.
 - They **would have finished** earlier if the meeting **hadn't been held** so late.
 - If I **had won** the lottery, I **would have bought** a house by the sea.
 - **Would you have helped** me if I **had asked** you?

MIXED CONDITIONALS

- This type of conditional sentence uses (mixes) different parts of the above-mentioned conditional sentence types.
- There are a few combinations: the condition emphasizes the result of the action in the present in the past tense, or the present-day condition emphasizes the result of the action in the past.
- Examples:
 - If you **had taught** me how to make waffles (in the past), I **wouldn't have to buy** them in a shop (now).
 - I **would buy** a house by the sea (now or in the future) **if I had won** the lottery last week.
 - Their team **would have scored** more in the match yesterday **if they were** good players.

IMPORTANT GRAMMATICAL NOTES

- If the modal verbs **can/could**, **may/might** or **should** are used in the main part of the sentence, they take the place of **will**:
 - We **can go** to the seaside **if you have** time tomorrow.
 - If you **leave** now, you **may catch** the last bus.
 - If you **want to pass** the exam, you **should** study much harder.
- The words **will** and **would** are not usually used in the *if* part, except when they express willingness, for example, in requests (that is, when they carry a modal meaning):
 - If you **will** phone the manager now, he **will** surely make an appointment with you. (willingness)
 - I **would** be very thankful if you **would** help me with my homework. (very polite request)
- The word **should** in the *if* part can mean “if perhaps” or “by any chance.”
 - I **would** be very happy if he **should** turn up at the party. (He’s not at all likely to come, but perhaps...)
- In negative sentences, **if...not** can be substituted with **unless**.
 - You **won’t** pass the exam **unless** you study very hard. (= if you don’t study very hard)
- **If** can be omitted from the sentence if the word order is changed. This is sometimes done in Type Three conditional sentences if the, *if* part is at the beginning of the sentence, or in Type Two sentences if the verb *were*, *is* used:
 - Were I rich, I **would** buy a house by the sea. (= if I were rich)
 - Had your cousin come earlier, I **would** have shown her around the house. (= if she had come earlier)