

10 CONDITIONALS
From "Mastering English Grammar by Svetlana Semyonova

10.1 Pretest

EXERCISE 1. Choose the right verb form to complete the sentence.

1. I (*can/ could*) help you to settle the matter, if it (*depend/ depended*) on me alone.
2. If the weather (*won't be / weren't*) so awful, we (*will/ would*) go to the country for the weekend.
3. If my car (*weren't/ won't be*) out of order, I (*will/ would*) give you a lift.
4. We (*can/ could*) get down to business if everybody (*will be/ were*) here.
5. If they (*had kept/ kept*) to the point, we (*didn't waste/ wouldn't have wasted*) too much time.
6. I (*won't/ wouldn't*) put off our appointment if I (*won't be/ weren't*) ill.
7. Sally always (*answered/ answers*) the phone if she (*is/ will be*) in her office.
8. Sally (*will answer/ would answer*) the phone if she (*will be/ were*) in her office right now.
9. If the weather (*will be/ is*) nice tomorrow, we (*went/ will go*) sightseeing.
10. If the weather (*were/ is*) nice today, we (*would/ went*) go sightseeing, but it isn't.
11. If I (*knew/ had known*) there was a meeting yesterday, I (*would go/ would have gone*) there.
12. If I (*knew/ had known*) Anna was in the hospital, I (*would visit/ would have visited*) her.
13. If I (*had known/ knew*) there was a test yesterday I (*would have studied/ studied*).
14. I (*could, can*) begin a new project today, if I (*finished/ had finished*) my work yesterday.
15. If I (*knew/ know*) anything about cars, I (*would have fixed/ fixed*) my car myself.
16. I (*will consider/ would consider*) taking the job with this firm if I (*won't received/ hadn't received*) another good job offer.
17. I (*would answer/ would have answered*) the phone, if I (*would hear/ had heard*) it ring, but I didn't.
18. I (*couldn't have finished/ cannot finish*) the work if you (*hadn't helped/ won't help*) me.
19. I (*shouldn't be/ weren't*) surprised if she (*will be/ were late*) again.
20. I (*wouldn't give/ won't give*) you so much trouble if the problem (*won't be weren't*) so important.

Total score -100/ 20 tasks

Your score _____

10.2 Classroom Exercises

EXERCISE 2. Present or future conditional sentences. Complete the sentences with the verbs in parentheses.

1. If I have enough apples, I (*bake*) will bake an apple pie this afternoon.
2. If I had enough apples, I (*bake*) _____ an apple pie this afternoon.
3. I will fix your bicycle if I (*have*) _____ a screwdriver of the proper size.
4. I would fix your bicycle if I (*have*) a screwdriver of the proper size.
5. I (*be, not*) _____ a student in this class if English (*be*) _____ my native language.
6. Most people know that oil floats on water. If you pour oil on water, it (*float*) _____.
7. If there (*be*) _____ no oxygen on earth, life as we know it (*exist, not*) _____.
8. My evening newspaper has been late every day this week. If the paper (*arrive, not*) _____ on time today, I'm going to cancel my subscription.
9. If I (*be*) a bird, I (*want, not*) _____ to live my whole life in a cage.
10. How old (*human beings, live*) _____ to be if all diseases in the world (*be*) _____ completely eradicated?
11. If you boil water, it (*disappear*) _____ into the atmosphere as vapor.
12. If people (*have*) _____ paws instead of hands with fingers and opposable thumbs, the machines we use in everyday life (*have to*) _____ be constructed very differently. We (*be, not*) _____ able to turn knobs, push small buttons, or hold tools and utensils securely.

EXERCISE 3. Present or future untrue conditions. In small groups or as a class, discuss the questions.

Under what conditions, if any, would you:

1. exceed the speed limit while driving?
2. lie to your best friend?
3. disobey an order from your boss?
4. steal food?
5. carry a friend on your back for a long distance?
6. not pay your rent?

EXERCISE 4. Using progressive verb forms in conditional sentences. Change the statements into conditional sentences.

It is snowing, so I won't go with you. But –

But if it weren't snowing, I would go with you.

1. The child is crying because his mother isn't here. But
2. You weren't listening, so you didn't understand the directions. But
3. Joe got a ticket because he was driving too fast. But
4. I was listening to the radio, so I heard the news bulletin. But
5. Grandpa is not wearing his hearing aid because it's broken. But
6. You were sleeping, so I didn't tell you the news as soon as I heard it. But
7. I'm enjoying myself, so I won't leave. But

EXERCISE 5. Using "mixed time" in conditional sentences. Change the statements into conditional sentences.

I'm hungry now because I didn't eat dinner. But

- But if I'd eaten dinner, I wouldn't be hungry now.

1. The room is full of flies because you left the door open. But
2. You are tired this morning because you didn't go to bed at a reasonable hour last night. But
3. I didn't finish my report yesterday, so I can't begin a new project today. But
4. Anita is sick because she didn't follow the doctor's orders. But
5. I'm not you, so I didn't tell him the truth. But
6. I don't know anything about plumbing, so I didn't fix the leak in the sink myself. But
7. I received a good job offer from the oil company, so I won't seriously consider taking the job with the electronics firm. But

EXERCISE 6. Omitting IF. Create sentences with the same meaning by omitting if.

If you should need more money, go to the bank before six o'clock.

- Should you need more money, go to the bank before six o'clock.

1. If I were you, I wouldn't do that.
2. If they had realized the danger, they would have done it differently.
3. If I were your teacher, I would insist you do better work.
4. If you should change your mind, please let me know immediately.
5. She would have gotten the job if she had been better prepared.
6. Your boss sounds like a real tyrant. If I were you, I would look for another job.
7. I'll be out of the country until June 12. If you should need to reach me, I'll be at the Hilton Hotel in Seoul.
8. The artists and creative thinkers throughout the history of the world have changed all of our lives. If they had not dared to be different, the history of civilization would have to be rewritten.
10. If there should be a global nuclear war, life on earth as we know it would end forever.

EXERCISE 7. Verb forms following *wish*. Complete the sentences with an appropriate verb form.

Our classroom doesn't have any windows. I wish our classroom _ had _ windows.

1. The sun isn't shining. I wish the sun _____ right now.
2. I didn't go shopping. I wish I _____ shopping.
3. I don't know how to dance. I wish I _____ how to dance.
4. You didn't tell them about it. I wish you _____ them about it.
5. It's cold today. I'm not wearing a coat. I wish I _____ a coat.
6. I don't have enough money to buy that book. I wish I _____ enough money.
7. Elena is tired because she went to bed late last night. She wishes she _____ to bed earlier last night.
8. I can't go with you tomorrow, but I wish I _____.

9. My friend won't ever lend me his car. I wish he _____ me his car for my date tomorrow night.

10. Mrs. Takasawa isn't coming to dinner with us tonight. I wish she _____ to dinner with us.

11. The teacher is going to give an exam tomorrow. I wish he _____ us an exam tomorrow.

12. You can't meet my parents. I wish you _____ them.

13. Andrew didn't come to the meeting. I wish he _____ to the meeting.

14. I am not lying on a beach in Hawaii. I wish I _____ on a beach in Hawaii.