



Presentation

Zero conditional

Use the zero conditional to talk about facts or things that are generally true.

If/When	Present simple	Present simple
If	you don't leave on time	you need to let me know.
When	we get a new client	we always have a lot of extra work.

First conditional

Use the first conditional to talk about a particular possible future event or situation.

If	Present simple	will/won't
If	I manage to finish everything at work	I'll come.

if and when

Use *if* or *when* when you talk about predictable repeated actions: *If/When the temperature goes below zero degrees, it snows.*

Use *when* (not *if*) if you are certain something is going to happen: *We'll come when the café opens.*

Use *if* (not *when*) if you are not sure that something is true or will happen: *If the tour finishes before the café closes, we'll join you for a coffee.*

unless, as long as

You can replace *if not* with *unless*:

I'll leave at 6 if my boss doesn't change her mind. = I'll leave at 6 unless my boss changes her mind.

Use *as long as* to say 'if and only if': *I'll text you again as long as I'm certain.*

Time linkers: when, as soon as, before, after, while, until

After the time linkers *when, as soon as, before, after, while* and *until*, we use the present tense (not the future *will/won't*) in the same way as after *if*.

I'll text you again as soon as I'm certain.

I won't leave until my boss gives me permission.

Exercises

1 Match 1–6 with A–F.

- | | | |
|--|-------|--------------------------------|
| 1 If you like history, | E | A we won't wait for you. |
| 2 Please arrive on time. If you're late, | | B we don't have to wear a tie. |
| 3 If you don't go to the match, | | C when the film finishes. |
| 4 If you're busy tomorrow, | | D ask me to help you. |
| 5 When it's very hot at work, | | E you'll love this new film. |
| 6 We'll meet you outside the cinema | | F I won't go either. |

2 Replace *if* with *when* where possible without changing the meaning.

- Blue litmus paper turns red if you place it in acid.
- Children only. You cannot go beyond this point if you are over 14.
- If you like chocolate, try our special triple chocolate treat!
- We sometimes have our class out in the garden if the weather's nice.
- The oven switches itself off if it gets too hot.
- If you go straight down this road, you'll see the station at the end.

3 Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

- home when I'll get you I call I'll call you when I get home.
- my work I until won't finish it's five o'clock
- Sue I'll as soon as her I speak to see
- they'll the to station train they get before leaves the
- be after I the exams won't finish so busy

4 Choose the correct options.

Conversation 1

A: Have you spoken to Tim yet?

B: No, sorry, I forgot. I ¹call / 'll call him as soon as I ²finish / 'll finish this email.

A: No, don't worry. I ³see / 'll see him this afternoon when he ⁴comes / 'll come to get his stuff.

Conversation 2

A: Come, on! The shops ⁵are / 'll be closed before we ⁶get / 'll get there if you ⁷don't / won't hurry up a bit!

B: OK, I'm coming. Don't panic, they'll still be open when we ⁸arrive/'ll arrive.

Conversation 3

A: I ⁹get / 'll get your dinner ready for you for when you arrive.

B: No thanks, Mum. We ¹⁰eat / 'll eat something to eat before we ¹¹leave / 'll leave.