



CONDITIONAL EXERCISES

-PART 1



A) Present Unreal Conditional

Using the words in parenthesis, complete the text below with the appropriate conditional form.

Did you hear about that guy who won 180 million dollars in the lottery? If I (win) that much money, I (quit) my job the next day. I (travel) around the world and (stay) in the most luxurious hotels. If I (want) anything, I (buy) it. If I (see) a beautiful Mercedes that I wanted, I (buy) it. If I wanted to stay in a beautiful hotel and the hotel (be) full, I (buy) the hotel and make them give me a room. I (can) do anything in the world if I had 180 million dollars ... Oh, I am starting to sound a little materialistic... Well... I (do) good things with the money as well. If anybody (need) help, I (give) them some money to help them out. I (donate) money to charities. I (give) money to help support the arts. If I (win) that much money, I wouldn't keep it all for myself. I (help) as many people as possible.

B) Present Real Conditional / Present Unreal Conditional

Complete the text below with the appropriate conditional form.

Michael: Sharon, I am having some problems at work, and I was wondering if you might be able to give me some advice.

Sharon: Sure, what's the problem?

Michael: The computer sales business is more difficult than I thought. When customers (come) in to look at the new computer models, they often (ask) me which model they should buy. If they (ask) me to suggest a model, I (be) usually quite honest with them. Most computer users don't need a very advanced computer; they just need a basic model which they can use for word-processing, bookkeeping and Internet access. If I am honest and I (recommend) one of the cheaper models, my boss (get) angry at me. He always says that a good salesperson can convince a customer to buy one of the most expensive advanced models. I don't really feel comfortable doing that. What would you do in my situation? Isn't it wrong to make them buy something which they don't need?

Sharon: I think you should help your customers make an intelligent decision. If I (be) [] you, I (educate) [] the customers. I (teach) [] them how to make a good decision by themselves. I (make, not) [] the decision for them. When a customer (ask) [] a question, answer it honestly. You don't need to lie to the customer, and you don't need to make the decision for them.

Michael: When I (sell) [] an inexpensive computer to a customer, my boss (complain) [] that I am not trying hard enough. What would you tell him?

Sharon: If I (be) [] in your situation, I (tell) [] him that I wasn't comfortable forcing customers to buy products which they don't need. Tell him that you don't want to lie to honest people, and that you want to provide them with good service. Remind him that when customers (get) [] good service, they (return) [] to a store and spend more money.

Michael: I think that's a great idea. He (might) [] change his mind if I said that to him. Maybe he (realize) [] that good service is the most important thing to consumers. And, of course, I (feel) [] much more comfortable if I (be) [] able to be honest with the customers. Thanks for your advice.

C)Past Unreal Conditional

Fill in with the appropriate conditional form.

After I graduated from university, I applied for a marketing position with a prominent bank with branches all over the world. I didn't get the job because they wanted someone who spoke Spanish fluently. I (could, take) [] Spanish in high school, but I didn't. I took an acting class instead. If I (take) [] Spanish, I (get) [] the job. Just imagine, if I had actually gotten the job, I (move) [] to Spain. My entire life (could, go) [] in a totally different direction. If I had accepted the job and moved to Spain, I (might, meet) [] a Spanish woman and (get) [] married. If that had actually happened, I probably (stay) [] in Spain. We (might, have) [] children. Unfortunately, I didn't get the job and I didn't go to Spain. I got a boring job and I live alone. If I had just taken Spanish, my life (be) [] much more interesting.

D) Past Real Conditional / Past Unreal Conditional

Complete with the appropriate conditional.

Clarence: Mary, have you ever had a teacher who changed your life or influenced you greatly?

Mary: Yes. But the teacher influenced me in a very negative way. I have always had problems with math, and I think it comes from my seventh grade math teacher, Mr. Harris. He thought girls couldn't do math. When any girl (ask) a question, he always (sigh) and (say) , "Girls can't do math. It's a well-known fact." When a boy (ask) a question, he (smile) and (ask) for his answer.

Clarence: That's terrible! Your teacher actually said that to you?

Mary: Yes. If he ever did let me answer a question, and I actually got it right, he always (say) that it was a lucky guess.

Clarence: Your parents (should, do) something about him. They (could, go) to the principle of the school and complained about the way Mr. Harris treated the girls. If you (be) my child, I (demand) that such an irresponsible teacher be fired.

Mary: You're right! If somebody (force) Mr. Harris to treat the children equally, I (become) more confident in math. His behavior (might, affect) every girl in that class.

Clarence: It might have. I'm glad our children don't have teachers like that!

E) Present Unreal Conditional / Past Unreal Conditional

Using the words in parentheses, fill in with conditional.

1. If I (have) enough money, I (backpack) around Europe. But, unfortunately, I am broke.

2. If I (have) enough money in my twenties, I (backpack) around Europe. But, unfortunately, I was broke.

3. She would have been here earlier if she (miss, not) the train.
4. Thank you for helping me study. If you hadn't tutored me, I (fail) the test.
5. If I exercised more, I (be) much more fit and I (have, not) so many health problems.
6. It's too bad Frank isn't with us. If he (be) here, he (can, translate) the letter for us.
7. Stop asking me what Joe bought you for your birthday. Even if I (know) what he bought you, I (tell, not) you.
8. My business trip to California was only two days. If the trip (be) longer, I (visit) my friends in Los Angeles.
9. I'm sorry, I didn't know you were allergic to chocolate. If I (know) , I (make) you a vanilla birthday cake.
10. Did you hear that Margaret won \$2,000 in Las Vegas, and she used the money to buy a new washing machine and dryer? How boring! If I (win) that much money, I (go) to Tahiti for a couple of weeks.
11. Sally's alarm didn't go off, and she was almost late to the interview. If she (arrive) late, she (might, not, get) the job.
12. Jane is polite and well mannered. She (say, never) anything rude or insulting. That is just the kind of person she is.
13. Martha said that Paul called Nick a jerk at the party. I don't believe that! Paul is polite and well mannered. He (say, never) anything rude or insulting like that.
14. Penny's baby daughter almost drank some of the furniture polish which was sitting on the coffee table. If she (drink, actually) the polish, she (could, get) sick or even died.

15. If I (can, go) anywhere in the world, I (go) to Egypt to see the pyramids.

F) Future Real Conditional

Complete with conditional form.

I am not sure what I am going to do when I (graduate) , but I do know I want to travel. I am probably going to work at my father's restaurant for a few months during the summer. When I (have) enough money, I (go) to Europe to visit some friends I met while studying.

I have always wanted to visit Europe. I especially want to visit Sweden. If I (get) to go to Sweden, I (stay) with my friend Gustav. His family has a house on an island in a lake near Stockholm. I am sure we (spend) a few days on the island if weather conditions (allow) .

I am not sure what other countries I will visit. If it (be) not too expensive, I (spend) a couple of days in Paris sightseeing. If I (go) to Paris, I (climb) the Eiffel Tower, (take) a boat tour of the Seine, and (photograph) daily life in the Latin Quarter.

G) Future Real Conditional / Future Unreal Conditional

Use the conditional form to complete the sentences.

1. Researchers are visiting Loch Ness next week to see if they can find signs of the Loch Ness Monster. I seriously doubt they will find anything. If they did actually manage to find something, I am sure they (become) world famous.

2. I am going to go to California next week on business. If I have enough time, I (visit) my friends in Los Angeles.

3. Sally has always been interested in pre-Columbian cultures. When she (go) to Mexico, she (visit) Chichen Itza, the most famous Mayan site in the Yucatan.

4. We are driving from Las Vegas to Death Valley next week by way of Pahrump, a town located on the edge of the unfamous Area 51. Area 51 is well known for its UFO sightings. If I

(see) any aliens, I will be sure to take a picture for you. Just kidding!

5. I am afraid I won't be able to come to your wedding next week because my company is sending me to New York to attend a trade show. I (miss, never) your wedding if I (have) a choice in the matter.

6. I (interpret) for you at the conference tomorrow if I (be) not already scheduled to work at the UN. I have a friend who (do) it for you if she (be) not busy. Why don't I give her a call to see what her schedule is like.

7. The mountain climbing team (attempt) to conquer Mount Everest next month if the weather conditions (be) suitable. I (join) them in the ascent if I (can) . Unfortunately, I broke my leg last month while training in Alaska.

8. If Sarah (go) to university, she (be) the first person in her family to get an advanced education. She has applied to many schools, but she really wants to go to MIT. If she (get) accepted to the university, she (move) to Boston to study astrophysics.

9. If mankind (do) not do something about the destruction of the rain forest, global warming (cause) dramatic changes in weather conditions all over the world.

10. Even if they managed to convince him to run for president in the next election, he (be, never) elected. His ideas are too dramatic and unconventional to be accepted by the mainstream.

H) Continuous Conditional Forms

Fill the lines using the conditional form.

1. They canceled all the flights out of Chicago today because of the blizzard. If it (snow, not) so hard, I would not be stuck in the airport.

2. Charles arrived late again to work yesterday. He came running into the office complaining of car problems, but everyone knew it was a lie. If the boss (stand) there when he showed up, I am sure he would have been fired.

3. If I were in Hawaii right now, I (sunbathe) on a beach. I would not be stuck here in this office with mountains of paperwork.

4. John is so incredibly lazy! If we went over to his house right now, I bet he (lie) on the couch with some pizza in one hand and a remote control in the other.

5. If I were a millionaire, I (work, not) here in this factory. I (shop) in Paris, (ski) in Innsbruck or (sail) the Mediterranean on my super yacht.

6. I wish we had time to organize a surprise party for Linda. If all of her friends (sit) in her apartment waiting for her when she gets home from work tomorrow, she would be so surprised!

7. If she (stay) in that hotel next week while the trade show is being held, she might be able to meet some contacts and tell them about our new line of computer software.

8. When Mike came home yesterday, he claimed he had been jogging. I didn't believe a word he said. If he had really been jogging, he (sweat) or at least out of breath. I think he went down to the coffee shop and had a donut.

9. Jane's plane arrived a half an hour ahead of schedule. If we hadn't decided to go to the airport early, she (wait) there a long time before we arrived.

10. If Sam hadn't stopped to pick up that quarter, he (cross) the street when the car ran the red light. He could have been killed!

11. When I went up to the cash register to pay for the Coke, the lady behind the counter was talking to a friend of hers on the phone. I waited and waited until I finally had to demand that she help me. If I hadn't said anything, I (wait) there for hours.

12. I am looking out the window right now and I see children playing soccer and hide-and-go-seek in the street. If it were winter, it would be too cold to play outside. All the kids would be indoors. They (watch) TV, (read) books or (play) board games with their friends.

13. If Bob (stand, not) behind us right now, I would tell you what happened. Just wait until he leaves, and I'll tell you the whole story.

14. Did you hear about the bomb the terrorists planted on the plane yesterday? A bag full of plastic explosives was in the cargo bay. Luckily, nobody was hurt. The plane with the bomb was having some engine problems so the passengers had to disembark. If they hadn't had difficulties with the engine, the passengers (sit) in the plane when the bomb went off. Talk about a miracle!

15. If you went to the studio early tomorrow morning, you (wait) there when the actors arrive for work. I'm sure you could get ten or twenty autographs that way.

(go on part 2)