



Mini-lesson 43: Simple Real Conditionals (Zero & First)

What Are Simple Real Conditionals?

Simple real conditionals describe things that are **always true** (general facts) or **possible in the future** (real situations). These include the **Zero Conditional** and the **First Conditional**.

Zero Conditional – General Facts & Habits

Form:

If + present simple, present simple

Use it for:

- General truths
- Scientific facts
- Routines and habits

Examples:

- If you **heat** ice, it **melts**.
- If I **drink** coffee at night, I **can't sleep**.
- If people **don't exercise**, they **gain** weight.

 The order can be reversed:

I can't sleep if I drink coffee at night.



◆ First Conditional – Real Possibilities in the Future

Form:

If + present simple, will + base verb

Use it for:

- Likely future events
- Warnings
- Promises or plans

Examples:

- If it **rains**, I **will stay** home.
- If you **study**, you **will pass** the test.
- If they **don't hurry**, they **won't catch** the bus.

✓ The order can be reversed:

I will stay home if it rains.



Practice 1: Choose Zero or First Conditional

Complete with the correct verb forms.

1. If you _____ (mix) red and blue, you _____ (get) purple.
 2. If we _____ (not leave) now, we _____ (miss) the train.
 3. If the baby _____ (cry), she always _____ (want) milk.
 4. If he _____ (not study), he _____ (fail) the exam.
 5. If ice _____ (melt), it _____ (turn) into water.
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Practice 2: Rewrite with Correct Form

Correct the verb tenses in the following sentences.

1. If I will see her, I tell her the news.
 2. If water boil, it evaporates.
 3. If you don't eat breakfast, you will felt tired.
 4. If the sun shines, we go to the beach.
 5. If you will touch that wire, you get shocked.
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Practice 3: Make Your Own Sentences

Write one sentence in each type:

- **One Zero Conditional sentence**
- **One First Conditional sentence**

Example:

- Zero: If I **don't drink** water, I **get** a headache.
- First: If I **have** time tonight, I **will watch** a movie.

Your turn!



Answer Key

Practice 1:

1. mix / get
2. don't leave / will miss
3. cries / wants
4. doesn't study / will fail
5. melts / turns

Practice 2:

1. If I **see** her, I **will tell** her the news.
2. If water **boils**, it **evaporates**.
3. If you don't eat breakfast, you **will feel** tired.
4. If the sun **shines**, we **will go** to the beach.
5. If you **touch** that wire, you **get** shocked.