

Conditional Sentences / If-Clauses (I, II and III)

Conditional Sentences are also known as Conditional Clauses or If Clauses.

They are used to express that the action in the main clause (without *if*) can only take place if a certain condition (in the clause with *if*) is fulfilled.

There are three types of Conditional Sentences.

- Conditional Sentences Type 1

→ It is possible and also *very likely* that the condition will be fulfilled.

Form: *if* + Simple Present, will-Future

Example: If I find her address, I'll send her an invitation.

- Conditional Sentences Type 2

→ It is possible but *very unlikely*, that the condition will be fulfilled.

Form: *if* + Simple Past, would + Infinitive)

Example: If I found her address, I would send her an invitation.

- Conditional Sentences Type 3

→ It is *impossible* that the condition will be fulfilled because it refers to the past.

Form: *if* + Past Perfect, would + have + Past Participle

Example: If I had found her address, I would have sent her an invitation.

Exceptions

Sometimes Conditional Sentences Type I, II and III can also be used with other tenses.