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Conditional Sentences

The 4 types of conditional sentences are Type 0, Type 1, Type 2, & Type 3. Conditional sentences have 2 clauses, an 'if' clause and a 'main' clause. All conditional sentences can be made with the 'if' clause in the front of the 'main' clause or vice versa. A comma should be used after the 'if' clause when it appears first in a sentence, but no comma is used when the 'main' clause is used at the beginning of the sentence.

- **Type 0** It is used to talk about things which are always true (facts). It is not used for specific events. It can use 'if', 'when', 'whenever'. or 'unless' and usually uses present simple tense in both clauses. e.g., When/whenever we work fast, we win most contests.
- **Type 1** It is used to talk about possibilities in the present or in the future that may or are likely to occur. The 'if' clause - usually uses 'if' + present simple tense. The 'main' clause - uses future simple, future perfect, or 'can / must / (be) going to' + present simple. e.g., If we work faster, we will win the contest. (believes they can win.)
- **Type 2** It is used for present or future impossible or unlikely situations. The 'if' clause - uses past simple, past continuous, or 'could' or 'would' + present simple. The 'main' clause – usually contains 'would' 'could' or 'might + present simple. 'Were' is often used after I / he / she / it.
 - e.g., If we worked faster, we might win the contest. (expects they will lose.)
- **Type 3** It is used to talk about past unreal, imaginary, or impossible situations. Usually used to show regret. The 'if' clause – usually uses past perfect or would + present perfect. The 'main' clause usually contains 'would', 'could' or 'might' + present perfect. e.g., If we had worked faster, we might have won the contest

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