

5.2 First Conditional

We use First Conditional sentences to talk about the possible results of an action. First Conditional sentences refer to the future:

If I tell them the truth, they *won't* believe me.

He *won't* pass his exams if he *doesn't* work hard.

Will he *pass* his exams if he *works* hard?

We use the Present Simple in the *if*-clause, which describes the condition. We use *will/won't* in the clause describing the result. Either clause may come first in the sentence. We put a comma at the end of the *if*-clause if it comes first in the sentence.

If Vicky pays attention in class, she will do her homework well.

Vicky will do her homework well if she pays attention in class.

If + Present Simple (condition),	will/won't + infinitive (result)
If he <i>works</i> hard, If George <i>is</i> late again,	he <i>will</i> pass his exams. the teacher <i>will</i> send him to the head teacher.
will/won't + infinitive (result)	if + Present Simple (condition)
He <i>will</i> pass his exams The teacher <i>will</i> send George to the head teacher	if he <i>works</i> hard. if he <i>is</i> late again.

1 Choose the correct option.

- 1 If Joe passes / *will* pass all his exams, his parents buy / *will* buy him a car.
- 2 My teacher *doesn't* / *won't* mind if I *finish* / *will* finish my essay tomorrow.
- 3 If Ella *doesn't* / *won't* find a paid job this year, she *does* / *will* do voluntary work to get experience.
- 4 They *miss* / *will* miss all their friends if they *choose* / *will* choose to go abroad.
- 5 If the school uniform *is* / *will* be compulsory next year, we *have* / *will* have to wear it.
- 6 If John *drops* / *will* drop PE and Art, he *has* / *will* have more time for academic subjects.
- 7 *Will* you help / *Do* you help me with my homework if I *will* have / *have* a problem?
- 8 Sandra *doesn't* do / *won't* do a gap year if she *doesn't* save / *won't* save some money.

2 Complete the sentences to make them true for you.

- 1 I will get a place at university if _____
- 2 If I don't get a place at university, I _____
- 3 If my timetable is very demanding next year, _____
- 4 I won't get good marks if _____
- 5 If I don't get a good job, _____
- 6 I will move house if _____
- 7 I will travel round the world if _____
- 8 If I get stressed about my exams, I _____
- 9 I will do voluntary work if _____
- 10 If I have more free time, I _____

3 Put the words in the correct order to make beginnings of sentences. Then match the beginnings (1–5) with the endings (a–e).

- 1 Andy / carry / will / bag / if / it's / your ☐
- 2 If / show / watch / you / carefully, / I'll ☐
- 3 I / you / don't / won't / understand / you / if ☐
- 4 If / we'll / now, / don't / we / be / leave ☐
- 5 I / you / help / if / don't / you / won't ☐

- a you what to do.
- b speak more slowly.
- c help me.
- d too heavy.
- e late for the exam.

4 Write sentences from the prompts. Use the First Conditional.

- 1 You / not / make friends / if / not speak / new people
- 2 If / Adam / study / London / improve / English
- 3 If / I / not / fall asleep / I / finish / my homework
- 4 We / take / Sociology / next year / if / on the timetable
- 5 Mum / not happy / if / not pass / my exams

5 Complete the First Conditional sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 If you _____ (not go) abroad, you _____ (not learn) a foreign language.
- 2 If you _____ (not take) it easy, you _____ (get) sick.
- 3 Sue _____ (waste) her time if she _____ (go) travelling.
- 4 _____ (you/phone) me if you _____ (have) time?
- 5 If it _____ (cost) too much, I _____ (buy) a smaller one.
- 6 If he _____ (go) backpacking, he _____ (spend) less.
- 7 She _____ (do) voluntary work if she _____ (go) to Africa.
- 8 You _____ (miss) the train if you _____ (get up) late.