

5.6 Future time and conditional clauses

Conditional clauses are introduced with:

- **if:** *If Mark doesn't hand in his homework today, his Maths teacher will get really angry.*
- **unless:** *Amy will not make any progress **unless** she works systematically.*

Time clauses are introduced with:

- **when:** *When the new term starts, the teachers will attend a conference.*
- **before:** *Before I take Chemistry and Physics for my A levels, I will talk to my teachers.*
- **after:** *After you mark your students' homework, you will know where they tend to make most mistakes.*
- **as soon as:** *The kids will feel better **as soon as** the school breaks up for holiday.*

We use the Present Simple in future time and conditional clauses.

Subordinate clause		Main clause
if unless when before after as soon as	+ Present Simple,	will/won't + verb

*My sister will never succeed **unless she learns** from her mistakes.*

Either clause may come first in the sentence. We put a comma at the end of the subordinate clause if it comes first in the sentence, but we don't use a comma if the main clause comes first:

*I will let you know about the time of our meeting **as soon as I get** my new timetable.*

***As soon as I get** my new timetable, I will let you know about the time of our meeting.*

1 Choose the correct option.

- I like to take it easy *after / unless* I finish football training.
- Sarah gets into trouble *when / unless* she skips lessons.
- I'll pay for your tuition fees *if / before* you promise to work hard.
- As soon as / Unless* I pass this exam, I'm going to start revising for the next one.
- Jan won't get good grades *if / unless* he learns how to cope with exam stress.
- You should always arrive at least fifteen minutes *before / when* an important exam.
- If / Unless* you work hard, I'm sure you'll succeed.
- You should check your homework *while / before* you hand it in.

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use the First Conditional.

As soon as I ¹ _____ (finish) school today, I ² _____ (go) home and have something to eat. If my mother ³ _____ (be) still at work, I ⁴ _____ (eat) a cheese and onion sandwich. Before I ⁵ _____ (watch) my favourite TV series, I ⁶ _____ (do) my Physics homework.

3 UNIT REVIEW Choose the correct answer, A, B or C to complete the sentences.

- When the new term starts next month, we _____ such a busy timetable.
A aren't having
B don't have
C won't have
- We will have more free time _____ our Biology projects.
A before we complete
B as soon as we'll finish
C as soon as we hand in
- Robert won't keep up with other students _____ in class.
A unless he pays attention
B if he won't pay attention
C if he pays attention
- You won't fail your exam _____ everything by heart.
A if you will learn
B if you learn
C if you learned
- As soon as I see my Science teacher today, I _____ her about our next project.
A ask
B am asking
C will ask
- He'll go to the cinema tomorrow _____ he has too much homework to do.
A if
B unless
C when
- _____ of other people is very immature.
A Having fun
B Laughing
C Making fun
- You should _____ these old notebooks. You don't need them.
A get rid of
B break up
C struggle with