

First Conditional



1. Read the conversation and answer the questions below.

Caleb: Hey Michelle, how are you today?

Michelle: Hi Caleb, I'm ok, but I'm a little bit stressed.

Caleb: That's not good. Why are you stressed?

Michelle: I am moving to a new house today, and I need to move all of my furniture to my new house in one day. If I can finish everything today, I will be so happy, but I don't think I have enough time!

Caleb: I hate moving house, it's so stressful! What will happen if you don't finish moving today?

Michelle: If I don't finish moving today, my landlord will be very angry. He says the apartment needs to be clean and empty by tomorrow!

Caleb: Ok.... Well I'm not working today. If you buy me a 6 pack of beer, I will come over and help you move the furniture and clean the house.

Michelle: Really?? Thank you so much Caleb.



- a) Why is Michelle stressed? *Because she has to move to a new house*
- b) What will happen if she doesn't finish moving house today? *Her landlord will be angry*
- c) What will Michelle do if Caleb helps her move house? *She will buy him a 6 pack of beer*

First conditional is used to discuss future possibilities.

Eg. *If I don't eat breakfast, I will be hungry later.*

The structure is if + (present simple) , will + (base form).

A conditional sentence always has two halves. The "if" half shows the possibility (eg. "If I study a lot....") and the "will" half shows the result (eg. "I will pass my test"). The order of these two halves can be reversed. This does not change the meaning.

Eg. *"If I study hard, I will pass my test"* is the same as *"I will pass my test if I study hard"*



2. Read the conversation in exercise 1 again and find 4 examples of first conditional.

If + present simple	Will + base form
If I walk to work,	I will be late
If I don't answer his email,	my boss will be angry
If I visit my family,	I'll bring them gifts
If I buy a car,	I will not catch the bus
If I clean the dishes	will you cook dinner?
If you work hard,	you can do anything

Note: Will can be replaced with modal verbs such as "can" or "should"

Eg. "If I work hard today, I can rest tomorrow." or "I should tell my boss if I find a mistake"



3. Match the pairs together.

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| a) If you don't brush your teeth (2) | (1) if you come to my party. |
| b) He'll wash the dishes (5) | (2) your dentist will be expensive. |
| c) If you study engineering (8) | (3) if you talk about politics at dinner. |
| d) I think you'll have a good time (1) | (4) your relationship won't be a good one. |
| e) If you catch bus 24 (7) | (5) if you cook for him. |
| f) If you order in November (6) | (6) it will be here by Christmas. |
| g) My parents won't like you (3) | (7) you'll get there by 3:30. |
| h) If you keep secrets from your partner (4) | (8) you won't have a lot of free time. |

4. Ask and answer these questions with your partner. Try to use first conditional in your answer.

- What will you do if it rains on the weekend?
- If there is no food in your house when you get home tonight, what will you do?
- Who will you call if you lose your keys and can't get into your house?
- Will you be surprised if your country wins the next world cup?
- What will do you if a stranger gives you flowers?
- If you go to the supermarket today, what will you buy?



5. Complete the conversation below using the verbs in brackets.

Conversation 1

Daniel: Me and my girlfriend are going to have a holiday next week, she wants to go to Italy, but I want to go to Croatia.

Jake: What **will** you **do** if you **go** to Italy?

Daniel: Well if we **go** (go) to Italy, she **will go** (go) clothes shopping, and I **will eat** (eat) a lot of pizza and pasta.

Jake: That doesn't sound bad at all. Don't you love pizza?

Daniel: I do love pizza, but if I **eat** (eat) too much pizza, I **will get** (get) fat!

Jake: So you're afraid that when you come back, she **will look** (look) great and you **won't look** (not/look) good?

Conversation 2

Charlie: Hi Lisa, my computer isn't working, can you help me with it?

Lisa: I'm sorry Charlie but I'm too busy! My boss **will fire** (fire) me if I **don't send** (not/send) this report today!

Charlie: Oh I'm sorry, I didn't know you are so busy! If I **help** (help) you with your report, **will** you **fix** (fix) my computer?

Lisa: Sure, I **will fix** (fix) it if I **can**. (can).

Charlie: Great, and if your boss **gets** (get) angry, you **can** (can) blame me!

6. Caleb is helping Michelle move house. Listen to their conversation and answer the questions.

a) How long does Michelle think the move will take? **3 or 4** hours

b) What will happen if Michelle and Caleb damage the moving truck? **She will have to pay for it**

c) Why does Michelle think it is a bad idea to start by packing the small things into the truck? **If they pack the small things first, they will have trouble packing the big things.**

d) What idea does Caleb have to keep the wine glasses safe? He says **"If you pack the wine glasses with the clothes, they will be safe."**

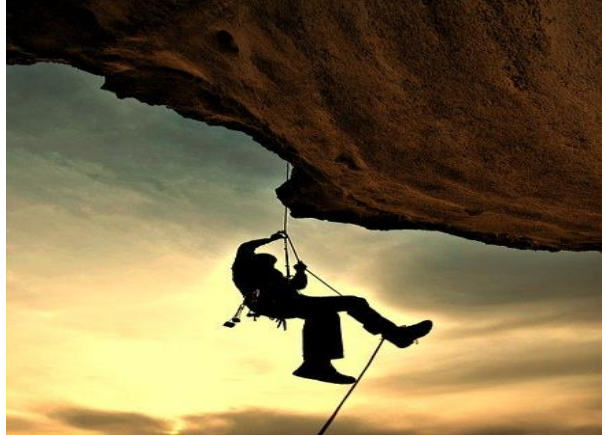
e) Will Caleb get to drive the truck? **He will if there is not much traffic**

f) Why does Caleb want to finish helping Michelle move house by 5pm? **If he finishes by 5pm he can watch a football game**





7. Look at the pictures below and make your own first conditional sentences.



E.g. *If she runs fast, she will win the race*

Audio Transcript

Michelle: Thanks again for helping Caleb

Caleb: You're welcome. No problem. How long do you think this will take?

Michelle: Well if we work fast it should only take 3 or 4 hours. I have a truck to move all my furniture, and I think if we pack carefully, we can move everything from my old house to the new house in 2 or 3 trips.

Caleb: Ok great. Where did you get the truck from?

Michelle: I borrowed it from my dad. He said if I damage it, I have to pay for it, so we have to be very careful. He loves that truck.

Caleb: Ok, I'll be careful. Should we start by moving all the small boxes?

Michelle: Ummm, no I don't think so. If we put the small things in the truck first it will be difficult to fit the big stuff in. I think we should start with the big things like the fridge, the washing machine, and my bed. If we put those in first, we can fit the smaller boxes in around them afterwards. The only problem is I have a special set of wine glasses my grandmother gave me, they're very fragile and I don't know where to put them. If they break I'll be really sad.

Caleb: Where are your clothes packed?

Michelle: In those brown boxes over there.

Caleb: Well if you pack the wine glasses with the clothes they will be safe.

Michelle: Ah that's a great idea, I'll do that.

Caleb: Ok great, and can I drive the truck? I have always wanted to drive one.

Michelle: I'm sorry but no, I don't think my Dad would like that, he really does love that truck.

Caleb: But if you don't tell him, he won't know!

Michelle: I'll tell you what, if there is not much traffic, you can drive the truck, but only if you promise to be careful!

Caleb: Ok I promise. Now, let's get started, it will be great if we can finish this by 5pm, there is a football game I'd like to watch.