The first conditional

The first conditional is a grammatical structure used to talk about **real** or **possible** future situations that are likely to happen. It's often used to express cause-and-effect relationships, where one event is dependent on the outcome of another event.
The first conditional is formed using the present simple tense in the "if" clause and the future simple tense (with "will") in the main clause.

Form: If + Subject + Present simple, Subject + Future Simple (with "will")

Usage:
The first conditional is used to describe events that have a reasonable chance of happening in the future if a certain condition is met. It's often used for **predictions**, **warnings**, **promises**, **suggestions**, and **talking about future plans.**

Examples:
- If it rains, we will stay indoors.
- If you study hard, you will pass the exam.
- If he arrives late, the movie will have started.
- If she calls me, I will answer the phone.
- If we finish early, we can catch the next bus.
- If you don't water the plants, they will die.
- If they invite us, we will attend the party.

Notes:
- In the "if" clause, you use the present simple tense to talk about the condition. It's important to note that this clause does not always have to begin with "if." Other phrases like "**unless**," "**provided that**," "**in case**," and "**as long as**" can also be used to introduce the condition.
- In the main clause, you use **the future simple tense** (with "will") to express the result or consequence that will happen if the condition is met.

Variations: Sometimes, instead of "**will**," you can use other modal verbs in the main clause, such as "**can**," "**may**," or "**might**," to show different levels of possibility or certainty.

Examples:
- If you study, you can pass the exam. **(possibility)**
- If she works hard, she might get a promotion. **(possibility)**

Remember! The first conditional is used to talk about future situations that are likely to happen if a certain condition is met. It's a useful structure for expressing cause-and-effect relationships and is commonly used in everyday conversations.



The first conditional exercise 1:

Choose the correct answer.

1. If she _____ **(study)** hard, she will pass the test.
a) will study
b) studies
c) studied

2. If you _____ **(call)** me, I will come over.
a) call
b) will call
c) are calling

3. If they _____ **(arrive)** early, we can start the meeting.
a) will arrive
b) arrived
c) arrive

4. She will be happy if you _____ **(invite)** her to the party.
a) invite
b) will invite
c) inviting

5. If he _____ **(not finish)** his project, he won't get a promotion.
a) not finish
b) won't finish
c) doesn't finish

6. If the weather _____ **(be)** nice, we can have a picnic.
a) is
b) will be
c) be

7. I'll lend you my book if you _____ **(promise)** to return it.
a) will promise
b) promise
c) promising

8. She'll be upset if you _____ (**forget**) your birthday.
a) will forget
b) are forgetting
c) forget

9. If you _____ **(cook)** dinner, I will do the dishes.
a) cook
b) will cook
c) cooking

10. If he _____ **(not hurry)**, he will miss the bus.
a) not hurry
b) doesn't hurry
c) won't hurry

The first conditional exercise 2:

Complete the sentences with the first conditional form of the verb in brackets.

1. If the traffic is bad, we _____ **(arrive)** late.

2. I'll be disappointed if the concert _____ **(get)** cancelled.

3. We won't be able to go swimming if the pool _____ **(close)** early.

4. If he _____ **(call)** me, I'll let him know the details.

5. If they win the game, they _____ **(celebrate)** all night.



6. If he _____ **(not take)** his medicine, he won't feel better.

7. I'll help you with your homework if you _____ **(need)** a hand.

8. I'll be tired if I _____ **(not get)** enough sleep tonight.

9. I'll be there if the event _____ **(take)** place in the evening.

10. If you _____ **(not eat)** breakfast, you'll be hungry later.

The first conditional: answer key

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Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

Exercise 1

1. b) studies
2. a) call
3. c) arrive
4. a) invite
5. c) doesn't finish
6. a) is
7. b) promise
8. c) forget
9. a) cook
10. b) doesn't hurry

Exercise 2

1. will arrive
2. gets
3. closes
4. calls
5. will celebrate
6. does not take / doesn't take
7. need
8. do not get / don't get
9. takes
10. do not eat / don't eat