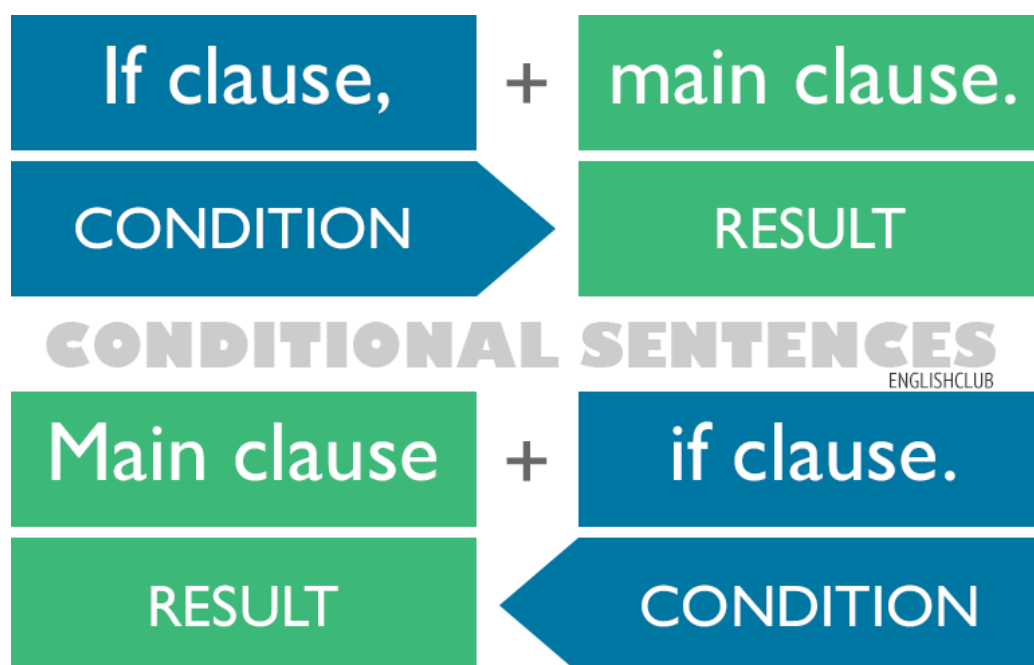


Table Of Contents:

- [The Zero Conditional](#)
- [The First Conditional](#)

We use conditionals to describe the *result of something* that **might happen** in the present or in the future.

They usually involve the use of '*if*' statements. An if-clause expresses a *condition*, while the main clause expresses the *result*. Here's a typical structure of all conditional sentences:



via <https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/verbs-conditional.htm>

The Zero Conditional

Zero conditionals are used to talk about *facts*, such as scientific facts, or when the result of the condition is **always true**.

- *If you **heat** ice, it **melts**.*

[If + Present Simple, + Present Simple]

The [Present Simple](#) is used in **both** clauses of the statement.

Conditional sentences can be used with other terms instead of 'if' such as '**when**'.

The use of '*when*' also adds *certainty* to something happening.

- **When** the monsoon **arrives**, it **floods** the streets.

[When + Present Simple,+ Present Simple]

The First Conditional

Unlike the zero conditional that are generally or almost always true, the first conditional could be associated with *possible situations* or a **possibility** of something that is about to happen **in the future**.

This could be based on an event that is *changing at present* or *could depend on other events* that might happen in the *future*.

In this case, '*will*' is used in the second clause of the statement.

Example 1:

- **If** my mother comes home tonight, I **will** take her out to dinner

Or

- **If** my other comes home tonight, I**ll** take her out to dinner.

[If + Present Simple, + will + infinitive]

In the above two conditional types, it is not important whether '*if*' is placed in the first clause of the statement or the second clause. They mean the *same thing* and can be *swapped* in usage.

- **If** I **go** the market, I **buy** my groceries.
- I **buy** my groceries **if** I **go** to the market.

OR

- **When** I **see** my personal tutor, I **discuss** my problems with him.
- I **discuss** my problems with my personal tutor **when** I **see** him.

Let's compare these two types of conditional sentences:

Zero Conditional *natural laws, facts and general truth.*

If-Clause	Main Clause
<i>Present simple</i>	<i>Present simple</i>

If temperature *is* zero, water *freezes*.

The 1st Conditional *events or actions that probably happened in future*

If-Clause	Main Clause
<i>Present simple</i>	<i>Future simple</i>

If it *rains*, I *will not go* to the park.

via <http://rock-cafe.info/suggest/zero-and-first-conditional-7a65726f.html>

Here's a great video from Papa Teach that explains all English conditionals:

All of the English Conditionals from Papa Teach

See also:

[The Second Conditional](#)

[The Third Conditional](#)

[Mixed Conditionals](#)