

WINNING THE LOTTERY

Second conditional

- 1 **T 8.4** Listen to five people saying what they would do if they won £5 million in the lottery and take notes.



- 2 Use your notes from exercise 1 to complete sentences 1–5.

- 1 I _____ my own island in the Caribbean.
I _____ loads of money to charity.
- 2 I _____ my job and travel. But it _____ me.
- 3 I _____ lots of land, so I _____ peace and quiet.
- 4 I _____ a space tourist and fly to Mars on the space shuttle.
- 5 I _____ away a penny. I _____ it all on myself.

Practise the sentences.

GRAMMAR SPOT

- 1 Look at the conditional sentences.

If I **have** time, I'll **do** some shopping.
If I **had** £5 million, I'd **buy** an island.

Which sentence expresses a possible situation?

Which sentence expresses an unlikely or unreal situation?

- 2 Complete each of these sentences to show the real situation.

If I **had** a lot of money, I'd **travel** around the world.
(But unfortunately, I *don't have* a lot of money.)

If I **had** a car, I'd never **catch** a bus again.
(But unfortunately, . . .)

If I **didn't have to** work today, I'd **go** to the beach.
(But unfortunately, . . .)

►► Grammar Reference 8.3–8.5 p146

8.2 Time clauses

Conjunctions of time (*when, as soon as, before, until, after*) are not usually followed by *will*. We use a present tense even though the time reference is future.

*I'll call you **when** I get home.*

***As soon as** dinner is ready, I'll give you a call.*

*Can I have a word with you **before** I go?*

*Wait **until** I come back.*

We can use the Present Perfect if it is important to show that the action in the time clause is finished.

***When** I've read the book, I'll lend it to you.*

*I'll go home **after** I've done the shopping.*

8.3 Zero conditional

Zero conditional sentences refer to 'all time,' not just the present or future. They express a situation that is always true. *If* means *when* or *whenever*.

If you spend over £50 at that supermarket, you get a five per cent discount.

8.4 Second conditional

Form

if + Past Simple + *would*

Positive

If I won some money, I'd go around the world.

My father would kill me if he could see me now.

Negative

I'd give up my job if I didn't like it.

If I saw a ghost, I wouldn't talk to it.

Question

What would you do if you saw someone shoplifting?

If you needed help, who would you ask?

Note that *was* can change to *were* in the condition clause.

If I	were rich,	I	wouldn't have to work.
If he		he	

Use

- 1 We use the second conditional to express an unreal situation and its probable result. The situation or condition is improbable, impossible, imaginary, or contrary to known facts.

If I were the president of my country, I'd increase taxes. (But it's not very likely that I will ever be the president.)

If my mother was still alive, she'd be very proud. (But she's dead.)

If Ted needed money, I'd lend it to him. (But he doesn't need it.)

- 2 Other modal verbs are possible in the result clause.

*I **could** buy some new clothes if I had some money.*

*If I saved a little every week, I **might** be able to save up for a car.*

*If you wanted that job, you'd **have to** apply very soon.*

- 3 *If I were you, I'd ...* is used to give advice.

***If I were you, I'd** apologize to her.*

***I'd** take it easy for a while **if I were you**.*

8.5 First or second conditional?

Both conditionals refer to the present and future. The difference is about probability, not time. It is usually clear which conditional to use. First conditional sentences are real and possible; second conditional sentences express situations that will probably never happen.

If I lose my job, I'll ... (My company is doing badly. There is a strong possibility of being made redundant.)

If I lost my job, I'd ... (I probably won't lose my job. I'm just speculating.)

If there is a nuclear war, we'll all ... (Said by a pessimist.)

If there was a nuclear war, ... (But I don't think it will happen.)

would

Notice the use of *would* in the following sentences:

She'd look better with shorter hair. (= If she cut her hair, she'd look better.)

would to express preference

I'd love a cup of coffee.

*Where **would** you like to sit?*

I'd rather have coffee, please.

I'd rather not tell you, if that's all right.

*What **would** you rather do, stay in or go out?*

would to express a request

***Would** you open the door for me?*

***Would** you mind lending me a hand?*