

## TITRE DE LA LEÇON : TENSE AGREEMENT (Conditionals/If-clauses)

Discipline : Anglais

Sous-discipline : Grammaire

Cycle : Lycée

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Niveau : Terminale A

To express a condition, we use conditionals or if-clauses. A condition is a situation or a circumstance. If a particular condition is true, then a particular result happens.

Example: If  $x = 3$ , then  $2x = 6$

There are four basic conditionals: **zero conditional**, **first conditional**, **second conditional** and **third conditionals**.

### 1-Zero conditional

**If-clause (Simple present), main clause (Simple present)**

We use the zero conditional when the result of the condition is always true, like a scientific fact.

Examples: If you **press** the red button, the machine **turns off**.

If people **don't eat**, they **get** hungry.

### 2-First conditional/conditional sentence type 1

**If-clause (Simple present), main clause (Future simple)**

It is used to express a present or future real possibility.

Examples: If I **study** my lessons, I **shall pass** my exam.

If Paul **tries** this shirt, it **will suit** him.

### 3-Second conditional/conditional sentence type 2

**If-clause (simple past), main clause (Present conditional: Should/would + verb)**

It is used to express an unreal possibility.

Examples:

If I **lived** near my school, I **would be** in time for school. (But I didn't live near my school).

If he **drove** slowly, he **wouldn't have** so many accidents. (But he didn't drive slowly).



Note:

a) We use **were** after **If I/he/she/it**.

Examples: If **I were** rich, I should visit New York.

If **he were** good at English, he would get a scholarship.

b) The contracted form of **I would, he would, she would, we would, ...** is **I'd, he'd, she'd, we'd, ...**

Example: If he had enough money, **he'd** send his son abroad.

c) An if-clause can be placed at the beginning or the end of a sentence.

Example: If he ate enough, he'd get weight.

→ He'd get weight if he ate enough.

d) Sometimes, we use **could** or **might** instead of **would**:

Examples: Mary **could** visit her friends if she cleaned the house.

If my father won the lottery, he **might** stop working.

#### 4-Third conditional/conditional sentence type 3

**If-clause (Past perfect), main clause (Perfect conditional: Should/would have + past participle)**

It is used to talk about a past condition that did not happen. (**Both the condition and the result are impossible now**)

Examples:

If Paul **had called** before coming, he **would have found** them. (But he didn't call).

If Betty **had been** free yesterday, I **should/would have invited** her. (But she wasn't free).

Note: sometimes, we use **could have** or **might have** instead of **would have**:

Example: If you had travelled by bus, you **might have seen** the Mayombe forest.

#### **Practice:**

Exercise one: **Put the verbs between brackets into the correct form:**

1- If I (have) a holiday, I'll go to Pointe-Noire.

2- He (stay) near the Nile if he goes to Egypt.

3- If he (see) Alice, his heart will beat.

4- If you walk in the rain, you (get) wet.



5- You (not die) if you don't eat for twenty-four hours.

**Exercise two: Put the verbs between brackets into the correct form:**

1- You'd play better if you (not talk) so much.

2- If Robert (be) rich, he would buy a plane.

3- If they paid attention to the teacher's advice, they (succeed).

4- He wouldn't suffer from tuberculosis if he (stop) smoking.

5- I should call the police if I (be) you.

6- Father would have been sad if Jane (not pass) her exam

7- If we had voted for him, he (build) a new school in the district.

**Exercise three: Complete the following with appropriate ideas.**

Example: If you cry a lot, you .....

——→ If you cry a lot, you **will have a headache.**

1- If he travels by train, he .....

2- If they followed the teacher's explanations, they .....

3- If you make noise in class, the teacher .....

4- You'll be tired in the evening if you .....

5- If it had rained, they .....