

Lesson Plan: Conditionals: complete review

Level	Intermediate / Advanced (B1–C1)
Time	60–90 minutes
Skills	Grammar, speaking, writing
Focus	Zero, first, second, third, and mixed conditionals — form, use, contrast, and common errors

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Accurately form all five conditional types
- Choose the correct conditional type for a given situation
- Use mixed conditionals to link past conditions and present results
- Identify and correct common errors across all conditional types

TARGET LANGUAGE & EXAMPLES

Zero — general truth / habit

- If + present simple, present simple
- If you heat water to 100°C, it boils.
- If I'm tired, I drink coffee. (habit)

First — real/likely future

- If + present simple, will + infinitive
- If it rains, we'll cancel the picnic.
- If you don't hurry, you'll miss the train.

Second — hypothetical present/future

- If + past simple, would + infinitive
- If I won the lottery, I would travel the world.
- If she had more time, she would learn Spanish.

Third — hypothetical past

- If + past perfect, would have + past participle
- If he had studied harder, he would have passed.
- If she hadn't been there, it would have been a disaster.

Mixed — past condition, present result

- If + past perfect, would + infinitive
- If I had taken that job, I would be living in Tokyo now.

Meaning & Nuance

Type	If-clause	Main clause	Use
Zero	present simple	present simple	always true / habitual

First	present simple	will + inf	possible / likely future
Second	past simple	would + inf	hypothetical present/future
Third	past perfect	would have + pp	hypothetical past
Mixed (P→Pr)	past perfect	would + inf	past condition → present result
Mixed (Pr→P)	past simple	would have + pp	present condition → past result

LESSON PROCEDURE

1. Warm-up: Type identification (10 min)

Task: 10 conditional sentences. Students identify the type.

- Mix all types including mixed conditionals.
- Reveals which types students already know and which need focus.

2. Review presentation (15 min)

Task: Quick summary chart of all five types.

- Focus on: what makes each different — time reference and degree of reality.
- Common errors: wrong tense inside the if-clause; mixing types.

3. Transformation task (15 min)

Task: Convert situations from one conditional type to another.

- 'It will rain → it didn't rain' — change first conditional to third.
- Discuss: how does the meaning shift with each transformation?

4. Real life conditionals discussion (30 min)

Task: Discussion prompts targeting each type.

- Zero: 'When do you feel happiest?'
- First: 'What will you do if you have free time this weekend?'
- Second: 'What would you do if you could speak any language perfectly?'
- Third: 'What would have been different if you'd made a different choice in life?'
- Mixed: 'If you'd grown up in a different country, would you be different now?'

TEACHER NOTES

- A review lesson works best when students identify errors in their own previous work.
- Mixed conditionals are often avoided by learners — this lesson makes them feel accessible.

EXTENSION / HOMEWORK

Choose one or more:

1. Write 5 sentences using 5 different conditional types about your own life.
2. Write a short story that uses at least 4 different conditional types.
3. Correct 6 conditional errors in a given paragraph.