

Lesson Plan: Advanced conditionals & inversion for emphasis

Level: Advanced (C1/C2)

Time: 60–90 minutes

Focus: Grammar, speaking, writing

Grammar Topics:

- Mixed conditionals (Past + Present/Future)
- Inversion in conditional sentences ("Had I known...")
- Inversion for emphasis ("Never have I seen...")

Learning Objectives

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

1. Identify and form mixed conditional structures.
2. Use inversion in conditional and emphatic statements accurately.
3. Apply these structures in speaking and writing tasks.

Materials Needed

- Whiteboard or slides
- Handout with examples and practice exercises
- Audio clips or short video with natural speech (optional)
- Grammar reference sheets
- Student notebooks or laptops

Lesson Procedure

1. Warm-Up (10 mins)

- Ask: What would your life be like now if you had made a different choice in the past?
- Pair discussion using prompts like:
 - If I had studied something else, I would...
 - If I had taken that job, I might now be...
- Write notable sentences on the board.

2. Presentation (20 mins)

A. Mixed conditionals

- Explain the structure:
 - If + past perfect, would + base verb (present result of a past condition)
 - If I had taken that course, I would know more about finance.
- Show variations (modals like could, might).
- Highlight common mistakes (e.g., mixing tenses incorrectly).

B. Inversion in conditionals

- Introduce:
 - Had I known... instead of If I had known...
 - Were I in your position...
 - Should you need assistance...
- Explain formal tone and register.

C. Inversion for Emphasis

- Examples:
 - *Rarely have I heard such nonsense.*
 - *Not only did he win, but he also broke the record.*
 - *No sooner had she arrived than it started to rain.*

3. Controlled Practice (15–20 mins)

Worksheet tasks:

- Sentence transformation:
 - If I had studied more, I would be successful today. → Had I studied more, I would be successful today.
- Fill-in-the-blank with inversion cues.
- Identify errors in mixed conditional sentences.

4. Production (20–25 mins)

A. Speaking task:

- Role play or group discussion:
 - "What would the world be like if historical events had gone differently?"
 - Students must use at least 3 mixed conditionals and 2 inverted forms.

B. Writing task (Optional homework or in-class if time allows it):

- Short opinion essay: *If I had been born in another country, how might my life differ today?*
- Must include at least 2 inverted conditionals and 2 emphatic inversions.

5. Review & Wrap-Up (5 mins)

- Quick quiz (oral or written): Identify structure types.
- Ask: Which inversion forms felt easiest or hardest? Why?
- Review key points and assign optional grammar extension online (e.g., Perfect English Grammar).

Assessment

- Informal speaking assessment during discussion

- Accuracy in written practice and transformations
- Optional follow-up quiz next class