



**Centre
Universitaire
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Cellule E-learning
 English - Level 3



Lesson 4
Conditionals (Type 2 and Type 3)

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Lessons' Objectives :

- You have learned in the previous lesson how to make conditional sentences type Zero and type one. In this lesson, you will know the characteristics of conditionals type two and type three as well as learning how to make sentences in each of them.

Conditionals Type Two and Three

1. Conditional Type Two:

- Read the following sentences:

- If the bus came early, I would reach you at the airport.
- If you participated in this competition, you would be famous.
- You could not write well, unless you practiced writing.
- We would not win the cup, if Belaili did not play in the final match.

Reminder: a conditional sentence should have two parts. One in which you state the situation (if-clause), and another in which you state the result of this situation (main clause).

You perhaps still remember that both type zero and type One are achievable **i.e.** they are conditions that happen or will happen, but **conditional type two** is used to express something that could *hypothetically*ⁱ or theoretically happen *i.e. a condition in theory*ⁱⁱ.

- Explanation of the examples:

- I am saying **hypothetically** that ‘if the bus came early’, the result of that is ‘I would **hypothetically** reach you at the airport’.
- The condition is ‘if you participated in this competition’, the result is ‘you would **hypothetically** be famous’.
- The result ‘you could not write well’ is **hypothetically** conditioned with ‘only if/ unless you practiced writing’.

- The result ‘we would not win the cup’ is **hypothetically** conditioned with ‘if Belaili did not play in the final match’.

The structure of conditional type two: if + Simple past >>> Would+ infinitive of the verb (verb without ‘to’).

2. Conditional Type Three:

▪ Read the following sentences:

- If it had been a hot weather, I would have gone to the beach.
- If you had listened to your father’s advice, you would have succeeded.
- Islam might have worked in the embassy, if he had acquired enough experience.

These examples are in conditional type three. This type is used to express past **wishes and imaginations**. We imagine that if a state/situation or a condition had happened differently, a result would have been differentⁱⁱⁱ.

Let’s take another example:

e.g.: If you had done your homework, you could have learned how to make conditionals.

The structure of conditional type three: if + Past perfect >>> would have + Past participle.

Note: ‘Would’ can be substituted by ‘might’ and ‘could’ in both conditional types.

 It’s time to train yourself. Make two or three sentences in each type.

ⁱSee, Conditional Sentences, Writing Center, Madonna University. Retrieved from www.madonna.edu

ⁱⁱSee, Conditional Sentences, if-clauses type I, II, III. On www.english-hilfen.de

ⁱⁱⁱSee, Conditionals 2 on www.learnenglish.britishcouncil.org