**CONDITIONALS (IF CLAUSES) TYPES 0,1,2 AND 3**

- **The Zero Conditional**

It used to talk about facts, general truths and things which always happen under certain conditions.

Examples:

1. If you steal you go to jail

2. Phosphorus burns if you expose it to air.

Structure: ***IF + PRESENT SIMPLE +PRESENT SIMPLE***

**- The First Conditional**

It is used to describe a possible future event and its consequences.

Examples:

1. If you don’t leave now, you’ll miss the bus. (\*)

2. If I see one, I’ll buy you one for you.

Structure: ***IF/UNLESS + PRESENT SIMPLE + WILL (or: May/Might/Can)***

**Note:** With the First Conditional you can also use “UNLESS”, which means “IF NOT”.

Examples:

1. Unless you leave now, you’ll miss the bus. (\*)

2. You won’t have money unless you save some.

**-** **The Second Conditional**

It is used to talk about unreal or unlikely situations, or to give advice.

Examples:

1. If I had the money, I would buy a bigger house.

2. If she didn’t have a bike, it would take her an hour to get to school.

3. If I were you, I wouldn’t do that. (advice)

Structure: ***IF +PAST SIMPLE + WOULD***

**Note:** “If I were you” is more common than “If I was you”.

**- The Third Conditional**

It is used to talk about unreal situations in the past, things which did not happen in the past. It is also used to talk about regrets.

Examples:

1. If she had saved the money, she would have had enough to pay the debt.

2. If I had fallen in love with him, I would have been so happy.

3. I wouldn’t have eaten that much if I had known I was going to put on weight. (regret)

Structure: ***IF + PAST PERFECT + PERFECT CONDITIONAL ( would/could/might + have + verb in past participle)***.

**Note: “**would/could” = would have been able to. (More certain than “might”)

“might” = perhaps.

**Compare:**

- I’m not hungry. If I were hungry, I would eat a sandwich. (Second Conditional = NOW)

- I wasn’t hungry. If had been hungry, I would have eaten a sandwich. (Third Conditional = PAST)