Université Badji Mokhtar, Annaba.

Module T.C.E Anglais 1ère année LMD (TCSNV)

**If conditional**

Conditional Sentences are also known as Conditional Clauses or If Clauses. They are used to express that the action in the **main clause** (without **If**) can only take place if a certaincondition (in the clause with **If**) is fulfilled. There are four types of Conditional Sentences.

**Type 0:**

If something is always true (**general truths**) under certain circumstances, the zero conditional sentence or if-clause type 0 is utilized in particular.

Eg: if you boil water over 100°, it evaporates.

If you start the engine, you hear that strange sound.

If you drink a glass of water before you go to bed, you sleep well.

Sometimes it is used to give instructions (we use the imperative mode)

Eg : If you don’t like it, don’t eat it.

Listen carefully if you don’t want to miss anything.

**The rule**: As this type refers neither to the future nor to the past, the simple present tense is used.

**If + present simple = present simple**

**Type 1:**

You use the first condition sentence when something is probably going to happen. It is possible and also very likely that the condition will be fulfilled.

Eg: If I find her address, I will send her an invitation.

If you buy it now, you will save a lot of money.

If she comes home late, she will get in trouble.

**The rule:** As this type refers to something which can happen in the future, the future tense is used.

**If + present simple = future simple.**

**Type 2:**

You use the type 2 when talking about unreal situations or imaginary things.

Eg: If I had wings, I would fly away.

Would you jump out of a plane if you had a parachute?

If I found her address, I would send her an invitation.

**The rule**: As this type refers to something that is impossible to happen, we use the conditional 1.

**If + simple past, Conditional I (would + Infinitive)**

**Type 3:**

It is impossible that the condition will be fulfilled because it refers to the past (regret).

Eg:If I had revised my lessons well, I would have succeeded in the exam.

If I hadn’t broken my leg, I would have travelled to South America with you.

If he had taken the train, he wouldn’t have had a car accident.

You wouldn’t have lost your job if you hadn’t insulted your boss.

**The rule**: As this type refers to something that could have happened if a condition had happened in the past, we use the conditional 2.

**If + past perfect (had+pp), Conditional II (would + have + past participle)**

**Activity 1:** Say what category these sentences belong to:

If she had a mobile, I would call her.

If Jim were here, he would have a solution for our problem.

If you move here, we will see each other more often.

You will live longer if you stop smoking.

If Sarah didn't go with John, Anna would try to become his girlfriend.

I will only dance if they play my favorite song.

I wouldn't buy that computer if I didn't need it.

If she doesn't feel better tomorrow, she will see a doctor.

If he had dropped the vase, it would have broken.

If you have to do the washing up, I will help you.

I wouldn't run away if I saw a spider.

We would have given you a lift if you hadn't had your bike with you.

If you had listened to me, the accident wouldn't have happened.

If we don't get tickets for the concert, we'll stay at home.

They'd go by bus if they didn't have a car.

She'll hear us if you don't stop laughing.

He wouldn't have taken the bread if he hadn't been hungry.

**Activity2:**

Provide a sentence with if conditional type 0, 1, 2 and 3.