Third Conditional

B1+-B2 | 60 QUESTIONS | SIX EXERCISES + ANSWER KEY

Talk about imagined past situations, missed opportunities and different possible results.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Quick guide: imagining a different past

IF-CLAUSE: PAST PERFECT

If + had + past participle

If I had left earlier, ...

Imagines a different past action

RESULT: WOULD HAVE

would have + past participle

... I would have caught the train.

Imagines a different past result

The past cannot be changed; this structure imagines what might have been.

Negative: If I'd known, I wouldn't have gone.
We can put the result first: I would have gone if I had known.

Exercise 1: Complete the if-clause

Use the past perfect: had / had not + past participle. Do not change the result clause.

01. If Liam _____ (set) his alarm, he would have arrived on time.

02. If I _____ (not / forget) my umbrella, I wouldn't have got wet.

03. If we _____ (leave) earlier, we would have caught the train.

04. If Ella _____ (check) the address, she wouldn't have gone to the wrong building.

05. If they _____ (know) about the concert, they would have bought tickets.

06. If you _____ (listen) carefully, you wouldn't have made that mistake.

07. If the shop _____ (be) open, we would have bought bread.

08. If Max _____ (not / lose) his keys, he would have got into the flat.

09. If I _____ (see) your message, I would have replied.

10. If the weather _____ (be) better yesterday, we would have gone hiking.

Complete the Third Conditional

Exercise 2: Complete the result clause

Use would have or would not have + past participle.

01. If we'd taken a map, we _____ (not / get) lost.

02. If Ava had studied more, she _____ (pass) the exam.

03. If you hadn't watered the plants, they _____ (die).

04. If I had known you were ill, I _____ (visit) you.

05. If he had left earlier, he _____ (not / miss) the train.

06. If they hadn't booked in advance, they _____ (not / get) a table.

07. If I'd saved my work, I _____ (not / lose) it.

08. If Kate had seen the stop sign, she _____ (stop).

09. If we hadn't brought jackets, we _____ (feel) cold.

10. If the waiter had heard us, he _____ (bring) some water.

Exercise 3: Complete both clauses

Use the third conditional forms of the verbs in brackets.

01. If Sarah _____ (take) the earlier bus, she _____ (arrive) before nine.

02. We _____ (not / be) late if the taxi _____ (come) on time.

03. If he _____ (not / eat) so quickly, he _____ (not / feel) sick afterwards.

04. If I _____ (know) your number, I _____ (call) you yesterday.

05. If you _____ (tell) me about the problem, I _____ (help) you.

06. The cake _____ (not / burn) if I _____ (set) a timer.

07. If the museum _____ (not / close) early, we _____ (see) the exhibition.

08. We _____ (find) the house if we _____ (follow) the directions.

09. If the children _____ (wear) boots, their feet _____ (not / get) wet.

10. If Dad _____ (remember) the tickets, we _____ (get) into the match.

Rewrite the Past

Exercise 4: Imagine a different past

Rewrite each situation as a third conditional sentence. Begin with the words given.

01. I didn't charge my phone, so its battery ran out.
Begin: If I had ...

02. We missed the bus because we left too late.
Begin: If we hadn't ...

03. Mia didn't practise, so she played badly.
Begin: If Mia had ...

04. The road was icy, so the driver lost control.
Begin: If the road hadn't ...

05. I didn't see the email, so I didn't reply.
Begin: If I had ...

06. Tom forgot his passport, so he couldn't board the plane.
Begin: If Tom hadn't ...

07. They didn't invite us, so we didn't go.
Begin: If they had ...

08. The restaurant was full, so we couldn't get a table.
Begin: If the restaurant hadn't ...

09. She didn't bring a coat, so she felt cold.
Begin: If she had ...

10. The sign was unclear, so we took the wrong turning.
Begin: If the sign had ...

Tip: Choose a different past action and an imagined past result.
Example: I was late because I overslept. If I hadn't overslept, I wouldn't have been late.

Choose & Correct

Exercise 5: Choose the correct option

Circle a, b or c. Look for the past perfect and would / could have forms.

01. If I'd seen the notice, I _____ earlier. a) would have left b) will leave c) would leave

02. We _____ the match if we'd arrived earlier. a) had seen b) will see c) would have seen

03. If he _____ the instructions, he wouldn't have made that mistake. a) reads b) had read c) would read

04. If you hadn't called, I _____ about the delay. a) wouldn't have known b) hadn't known c) wouldn't know

05. If the train had been on time, we _____ the meeting. a) won't miss b) didn't miss c) wouldn't have missed

06. She _____ happier if she'd received the invitation. a) would have been b) had been c) will be

07. If they _____ the weather forecast, they'd have stayed home. a) would check b) checked c) had checked

08. If I hadn't dropped the glass, it _____. a) hadn't broken b) wouldn't have broken c) won't break

09. If we'd taken a taxi, we _____ so late. a) wouldn't have arrived b) haven't arrived c) wouldn't arrive

10. If Grace _____ her wallet, she could have paid for lunch. a) brings b) would bring c) had brought

Exercise 6: Correct one mistake

Each sentence contains one grammatical error. Rewrite it correctly.

01. If I would have known, I'd have helped.

02. If we had went earlier, we'd have found a seat.

03. She would had phoned if she'd had my number.

04. If he had listened, he wouldn't made that mistake.

05. If they hadn't missed the bus, they will have arrived on time.

06. I'd have called you if I have seen your message.

07. If it didn't rain yesterday, we'd have played tennis.

08. If you'd been more careful, you wouldn't have broke the vase.

09. If she had studied more, she would pass the exam last month.

10. If I'd remembered the meeting, I would have came on time.

Answer Key

THIRD CONDITIONAL | 60 QUESTIONS

Exercise 1 - Past perfect

1. had set
2. had not forgotten
3. had left
4. had checked
5. had known
6. had listened
7. had been
8. had not lost
9. had seen
10. had been

Exercise 2 - Result clause

1. would not have got
2. would have passed
3. would have died
4. would have visited
5. would not have missed
6. would not have got
7. would not have lost
8. would have stopped
9. would have felt
10. would have brought

Exercise 5 - Multiple choice

1 a 2 c 3 b 4 a 5 c
6 a 7 c 8 b 9 a 10 c

Exercise 6 - Corrected sentences

1. If I had known, I'd have helped.
2. If we'd gone earlier, we'd have found a seat.
3. She would have phoned if she'd had my number.
4. If he'd listened, he wouldn't have made that mistake.
5. If they hadn't missed the bus, they would have arrived on time.
6. I'd have called you if I had seen your message.
7. If it hadn't rained yesterday, we'd have played tennis.
8. If you'd been more careful, you wouldn't have broken the vase.
9. If she had studied more, she would have passed the exam last month.
10. If I'd remembered the meeting, I would have come on time.

Exercise 3 - Both clauses

1. had taken; would have arrived
2. would not have been; had come
3. had not eaten; would not have felt
4. had known; would have called
5. had told; would have helped
6. would not have burnt; had set
7. had not closed; would have seen
8. would have found; had followed
9. had worn; would not have got
10. had remembered; would have got

Exercise 4 - Model rewrites

1. If I'd charged my phone, its battery wouldn't have run out.
2. If we hadn't left so late, we wouldn't have missed the bus.
3. If Mia had practised, she wouldn't have played badly.
4. If the road hadn't been icy, the driver wouldn't have lost control.
5. If I'd seen the email, I'd have replied.
6. If Tom hadn't forgotten his passport, he could have boarded the plane.
7. If they'd invited us, we'd have gone.
8. If the restaurant hadn't been full, we could have got a table.
9. If she'd brought a coat, she wouldn't have felt cold.
10. If the sign had been clearer, we wouldn't have taken the wrong turning.

Accept equivalent contractions and other correct third conditional sentences that preserve the meaning.