

The first conditional is used to talk about something that will probably happen or is likely to happen in the future. It can also be used to give advice. The structure is made up of two clauses:

- A clause starting with *if* in the present simple tense.
- A clause with a future meaning using *will*, *be going to*, a modal to talk about the future such as *might* or *should*, or other words that indicate a future time.

Either clause can be first in the sentence. If the *if* clause is first, a comma separates the clauses.

Examples:

- If you work harder, you will have enough money to go to Tokyo.
- You will have enough money to go to Tokyo if you work harder.



A. Complete the first conditional sentences for giving advice with the verbs from the box in their correct forms. You can use each verb only once.

report succeed	produce admit	continue avoid	assist reserve	hire blame
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1. She will be able to more at work if she an assistant.
2. If you the crime to the police, they will you.
3. You will if you to work hard.
4. If you a table, you can disappointment.
5. If you don't to the mistake, someone else could be

B. Put the words in the correct order to make first conditional sentences about giving advice. Add punctuation and capitalization where needed.

1. survive / take / be able to / extra water / you / will / with you / if / in the desert / you
.....
2. much tidier / keep / look / in the wardrobe / you / if / your clothes / your room / will
.....
3. you / saving / decide / to Australia / if / money now / you / should / to go / start
.....
4. should / 8 o'clock / if / the train / take / get / you / to London / you / before
.....
5. we / hurry / arrive before / have to / we / the storm / want to / if / starts
.....

C. Rose is an advice columnist. People write to her about their problems, and she gives them advice. Read the following email to Rose. Underline the if clauses and put brackets around the clauses with a future meaning.

Dear Rose,

My friends told me that if I tell you my problem, you'll give me advice. Please help me. My problem is that two men want me to marry them, and I can't choose. Will I be happy if I choose the first man? Or if I choose the second man, will I be happier?

The first man is very good looking, and he tells me that I am beautiful. He said that he'll always want to be with me if I stay beautiful even when I'm older. If we have children together, I'm sure that our children will also be good-looking. We have different religions, but if we never talk about religion, we shouldn't have any problems concerning it.

The second man is average looking, but he is very rich. He also tells me that I am beautiful. He will buy me anything if I tell him that I like it. If his business goes well, he might become even richer. I will be very rich too if I marry him. If I'm rich, I won't have any problems. We don't have a lot in common, but if we're rich, we'll be able to buy anything we want.

What should I do?

Confused in Cardiff



D. Now, take on the role of the advice columnist. Write a response to 'Confused in Cardiff', giving advice using the first conditional.

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E. Now, read your reply to a partner. Do they agree with your advice?