

# 39 Mixed conditionals

You can use different types of conditional statements to talk about hypothetical situations. Mixed conditionals use more than one of these types in the same statement.

⚙️ **New language** Mixed conditionals

Aa **Vocabulary** Personality traits

🧑 **New skill** Talking about hypothetical situations

## 39.1 KEY LANGUAGE MIXED CONDITIONALS

### SECOND CONDITIONAL

Use the second conditional to talk about hypothetical situations in the present.

PAST SIMPLE



If I didn't believe in astrology,  
I wouldn't read my horoscope.

"WOULD" + INFINITIVE

### THIRD CONDITIONAL

Use the third conditional to talk about hypothetical situations in the past.

PAST PERFECT



If I had known he was an Aquarius,  
I would not have gone out with him.

"WOULD" + "HAVE" + PAST PARTICIPLE

### MIXED CONDITIONAL

Mixed conditionals combine second and third conditionals.



If you had been born a month earlier,  
you would be a Virgo like me.



## 39.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES MIXED CONDITIONALS



Mixed conditionals are often used to express regret.

If I had finished my assignment sooner, I could be out with my friends today.



You would be starting a new school tomorrow if you hadn't failed your exams.

You can use mixed conditionals to refer to future situations.





### 39.3 MATCH THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SENTENCES TO THE CORRECT ENDINGS

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>If you had kept on going to the gym,</p> <p>1 You wouldn't be such a success today</p> <p>2 If my alarm had gone off,</p> <p>3 She might not be such a celebrity</p> <p>4 He would be playing today</p> <p>5 If you had spent less money,</p> <p>6 If I had given up trying,</p> <p>7 If we had eaten breakfast,</p> | <p>if you hadn't worked so hard at school.</p> <p>if she hadn't had famous parents.</p> <p>you wouldn't have such great tickets.</p> <p>you would be fitter by now.</p> <p>I wouldn't be in trouble for being late.</p> <p>I wouldn't be managing the business today.</p> <p>we might not be so hungry now.</p> <p>if he hadn't broken his leg yesterday.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|



### 39.4 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE VERBS IN THE CORRECT TENSE

- If he had not fixed (not fix) my car, I would still be walking to work every day.
- 1 If Clara \_\_\_\_\_ (not stay) up so late, she might not be so tired now.
- 2 She might not be a famous actress today if she \_\_\_\_\_ (not go) to that first audition.
- 3 If he \_\_\_\_\_ (keep) playing the guitar, he would be in a famous band by now.
- 4 If Juan \_\_\_\_\_ (listen) to all his critics, he would not be a world-famous chef today.
- 5 He would not be playing for a premier team if he \_\_\_\_\_ (not train) every day.
- 6 If she \_\_\_\_\_ (say) "yes" to your proposal, you could be married by now.
- 7 They would not be so confident if they \_\_\_\_\_ (see) their team training yesterday.



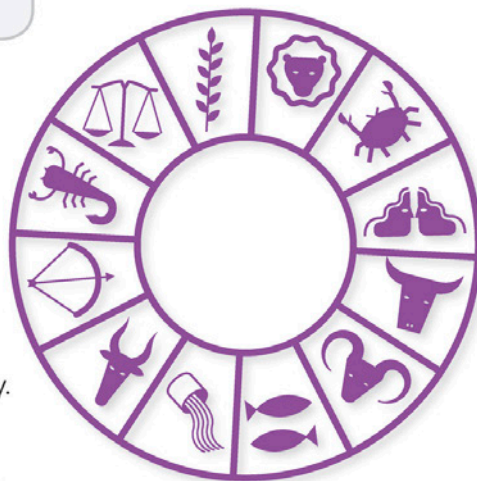


### 39.5 LISTEN TO THE HOROSCOPE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

You have had good ideas, but you haven't used them sensibly.

True ☒ False ☐

- 1 You need to get others to invest in your business.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 2 You should be braver in promoting your ideas at work.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 3 You should have said sorry for something yesterday.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 4 You will definitely have an exciting weekend, especially Sunday.  
True ☐ False ☐
- 5 If it's your birthday, today is a good day to care for your friends.  
True ☐ False ☐



Aa

### 39.6 USE THE ADJECTIVES FROM THE PANEL TO COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

He reads lots of books and loves going to museums. He's very intellectual.

- 1 You need \_\_\_\_\_ staff who turn up on time and do their work.
- 2 He's so \_\_\_\_\_. He just jumped into the fire to save the kitten.
- 3 My husband is really \_\_\_\_\_. He even cries during romantic films.
- 4 If he hadn't been so violent and \_\_\_\_\_, he would not be in jail today.
- 5 If she hadn't been so \_\_\_\_\_, she might not be such a successful singer.
- 6 Jane is very \_\_\_\_\_. She can fix the car and put up shelves.

~~intellectual~~ sensitive determined courageous reliable quick-tempered practical





## 39.7 READ THE ARTICLE AND CORRECT THE STATEMENTS



# IN YOUR STARS?

HOME | ENTRIES | ABOUT | CONTACT



### Diane Carter (24), Scorpio (Oct 24–Nov 22)

I'm a Scorpio and I check my stars every day. I've got an app on my smartphone and it's one of the first things I read in the mornings. If the horoscope says I shouldn't do something, I won't. For example, if it says "Don't travel," then there's no chance of me getting on a plane that day. I know that, logically, it's very unlikely that anything will happen, but I don't want to take the risk. I'm a typical Scorpio because I'm quite passionate about things, but I'm also a little obsessive. I guess that's why I have to check my stars every day!



### Richard Davis (22), Sagittarius (Nov 24–Dec 22)

I'm Sagittarius, I think, but I never think about horoscopes. I think that it's all nonsense. I mean, when you read the things that they say will happen to you on a certain day, there's a fair chance that they will happen to most people on most days. Things like "You'll get some news" or "You'll talk to a stranger." I also think that, if you believe in these things, then it is inevitable that the predictions will suit what happens because you will make them fit. I mean, if you wear red because your stars tell you to, and everything is OK, then you can say that the horoscope was right. Apparently, I'm supposed to be intellectual and superficial. I'm not sure how I can be both!

Diane reads her stars in the newspaper first thing every day.

Diane reads her stars on a phone app first thing every day.

- 1 Diane would not change her plans because of her horoscope's advice.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2 Diane thinks she's a typical Scorpio because she's not very passionate about things.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Richard thinks that things a horoscope says will happen are unlikely.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 4 He says it's surprising how many times horoscopes make correct predictions.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 39 CHECKLIST



Mixed conditionals ☐



Personality traits ☐



Talking about hypothetical situations ☐