

8B

Second and third conditional

1 Match the sentence halves.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 If we improved our farming policies, | a they wouldn't get sick so often. |
| 2 If they hadn't closed the factory, | b other countries could attack us. |
| 3 If we didn't have nuclear weapons, | c we couldn't have signed the petition. |
| 4 If people ate healthier food, | d we could produce more food. |
| 5 If the government had improved the roads, | e we wouldn't have problems with global warming. |
| 6 If we looked after the planet better, | f we couldn't have spent so much on education. |
| 7 If we hadn't gone to the demonstration, | g the traffic wouldn't have been so bad. |
| 8 If we had spent more money on welfare, | h I might still have had a job. |

2 Make second or third conditional sentences about these situations. Use the words in brackets.

- She didn't like reading. For that reason, she didn't go to the library. (supposing)

- You didn't tell me about the march. I wouldn't have gone anyway. (even if)

- They watched the documentary about the famine and gave some money to charity. (if)

- You live near the school, so you don't have to take the bus. But you always cycle everywhere. (even if)

- He loves politics, so he often listens to politicians' speeches. (supposing)

- He spoke passionately about the cause. He wouldn't have done if he didn't believe in it. (unless)

3 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Read the story below. How many second and third conditional sentences can you make up about the situation?

If Sam were more reliable ...

Noah and Sam are friends. Sam isn't very reliable and so Noah often gets angry with him. Yesterday Noah arranged to meet Sam at the sports centre. However, Sam was late, so Noah went home. He usually cycles to and from the sports centre. Because he does a lot of cycling, he's very fit. However, on this day his bike was broken, so he took the bus. While he was on the bus, he dropped his phone and lost all his contacts. Noah hasn't got a lot of money, so he can't afford to buy a new phone.



8B Second and third conditional

Aims: To review and practise the second and third conditional.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: 1 handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to do the exercise. They should match sentence halves to make second and third conditional sentences. Remind them, if necessary, of the structures for second conditional (*if* + past simple, *would* + base form) and for third conditional (*if* + past perfect, *would have* + past participle). Students can then compare their answers in pairs.
- Check answers with the class.

KEY

1 d 2 h 3 b 4 a 5 g 6 e 7 c 8 f

Exercise 2

- Students read the sentences and then write second or third conditional sentences based on that information. Go through the first sentence with the class pointing out the changes in tense, word order and also the changes from negative to affirmative forms. Students then continue to work individually or in pairs.
- Check answers with the class.

KEY

- 1 Supposing she liked reading, she would have gone to the library.
- 2 Even if you had told me about the march, I wouldn't have gone anyway.
- 3 If they hadn't watched the documentary about the famine, they wouldn't have given some / any money to charity.
- 4 Even if you didn't live near the school, you wouldn't take the bus (because you always cycle everywhere).
- 5 Supposing he didn't love politics, he wouldn't often listen to politicians' speeches.
- 6 He wouldn't have spoken so passionately about the cause unless he believed in it. / Unless he believed in it, he wouldn't have spoken so passionately about the cause.

Exercise 3

- Ask a volunteer to read the story aloud. Point out that students should be able to make three second conditional sentences and four third conditional sentences from the information in the text. Look at the second sentence: *Sam isn't very reliable and so Noah often gets angry with him*, and elicit a second conditional sentence from this information. Students can then continue to work in pairs.

KEY

If Sam were more reliable, Noah wouldn't get angry with him so often.

If Sam hadn't been late, Noah wouldn't have gone home.

If Noah didn't do a lot of cycling, he wouldn't be so fit.

If his bike hadn't been broken, he wouldn't have taken the bus.

If he hadn't been on the bus, he wouldn't have dropped his phone.

If he hadn't dropped his phone, he wouldn't have lost all his contacts.

If he had some / a lot of / more money, he could afford to buy a new phone.