

CONDITIONALS

ZERO CONDITIONAL

Use for real situations
(in the present or always)
if-clause = simple present
main clause = simple present
If you practice more, you speak better.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

Use for real situations
(in the future)
if-clause = simple present
main clause = simple future
If you practice more, you will speak better.

SECOND CONDITIONAL

Use for unreal situations
(always unreal)
if-clause = simple past
main clause = would + base verb
If you practiced more, you would speak better.

Conditionals have two clauses -
an if-clause and a main clause.
Each clause has its own verb tense.

THIRD CONDITIONAL

Use for unreal situations
(in the past)
if-clause = past perfect
main clause = would + have + past participle
If you had practiced more, you would have spoken better.

MIXED CONDITIONAL

Use for unreal situations
(in the past with present consequences)
if-clause = past perfect
main clause = would + base verb
If you had practiced more, you would speak better.

Conditional clauses can be reversed.
If you practice more, you will speak better.
You will speak better if you practice more.