

If clauses

First conditional/if clause type 1

If I see her, I will ask her.

If clauses

First conditional/ If clause type 1

The first conditional describes something that is either expected or likely to happen (a real condition) and what will, can or might happen as a consequence of this.

If it rains tomorrow, you will need an umbrella.

The first conditional is made up of a conditional clause (*if* + present simple) and a main clause with the (expected) result of that condition (modal verb *will/won't* + infinitive without *to*).

If you catch the 3 o'clock bus, you will be in time.

The main clause with the result can also use the modal verbs *can* or *might* instead of *will*.

If I leave early, I can meet you for a drink before dinner.

If it does not rain, we might sit outside for a drink.

If clauses type 1 consider likely developments in the future.

Note:

This rule applies to all
types of if clauses.

If the if clause is the first element of the sentence, both parts of the sentence are separated by a comma.

If it rains tomorrow (comma), you will need an umbrella.

There is no comma if the main clause is the first element.

You will need an umbrella (no comma) if it rains tomorrow.

2. Halbjahr 2026
Englisch am Abend B1-3
262-40643, Mi, 18.00 – 19.30 Uhr

Exercises

Complete the sentences with the correct format of either the if- or main clause:

1. If it (to rain) tomorrow, I (to bring) my umbrella.

*If it **rains** tomorrow, **I will bring** my umbrella.*

2. If she (to call) me, I will answer the phone.

*If she **calls** me, I will answer the phone.*

3. You will be late for school if you (not, to hurry).

*You will be late for school if you **don't hurry**.*

Translate:

4. Wir machen eine Fahrradtour, wenn die Sonne morgen scheint.

We will make a bicycle tour if the sun shines tomorrow.

5. Wenn du später Zeit hast, können wir einen Kaffee trinken.

If you have time later, we can have a coffee.

6. Er wird nicht kommen, wenn du ihn nicht einlädst.

He won't come if you don't invite him.

7. Wenn der Bus nicht kommt, könnten wir laufen.

If the bus does not come, we might/could walk.