

Unit 11

More on conditionals

If you *had switched off* the lights last night, less energy *would have been wasted*.



If I *were* you, I *would turn down* the air conditioner and *keep* my voice *down*.



Grammar in Context

Theme: Resources and energy conservation

Words by Theme



Read the following letter of complaint and answer the questions.

Dear Manager,

I am a loyal customer of your restaurant. The food you offer is fabulous. ❶ If you had not installed the flashy¹ neon sign outdoors, I would not have written this letter.

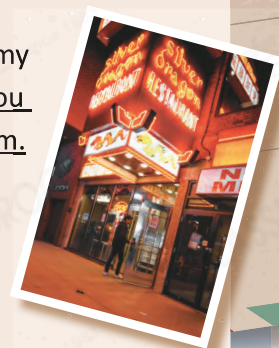
I do not deny that the lavish² lighting is appealing. ❷ If it had not been so eye-catching, many people might have missed the site. ❸ However, if it is left on all the time, it runs hot and demands much energy.

Despite living several blocks away from your restaurant, the bright light is disturbing my sleep. ❹ If I do not let you know the many similar complaints from my neighbours, you may underestimate the severity³. ❺ If I were you, I would turn the sign off after 10 pm.

❻ If you take my advice, the electricity bill⁴ will go down and the restaurant will be known for its commitment⁵ to energy saving.

Yours faithfully,

Matthew Lee



1. Read sentences ❶ – ❻. What are they showing? Complete the table by blackening the circles.

	❶	❷	❸	❹	❺	❻
(i) facts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(ii) possible situations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iii) unreal situations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(iv) situations that did not happen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

2. Decide if the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

- (i) The neon sign does not consume much energy even if it is on 24/7.
- (ii) The writer is informing the manager about many similar complaints in case he is unaware that it is a serious problem.
- (iii) Unless the neon sign is turned off after 10 pm, the disturbance will continue.
- (iv) Provided that the restaurant takes the writer's advice, its electricity bill will decrease.

PART 1 Review of Type 0 and Type 1 conditionals

In Unit 8 of Book 2, we have learnt Type 0 and Type 1 conditionals.

Type 0 conditionals: Situations	If-clause simple present tense	Main clause simple present tense
Laws of science and nature	<i>If you heat butter,</i>	<i>it melts.</i>
General facts	<i>If the banana turns brown,</i>	<i>it is too ripe to eat.</i>
Habits	<i>If I sleep late,</i>	<i>I feel drowsy the next day.</i>
Type 1 conditionals: Situations	Main clause simple future tense / modal / imperative	If-clause simple present tense
Possibilities	<i>I can run 100m in 10s</i>	<i>if I practise harder.</i>
Ability	<i>She will get the job offer</i>	<i>if she speaks up.</i>
Advice	<i>You should rest</i>	<i>if you want to recover soon.</i>
Obligations	<i>You must check in your luggage</i>	<i>if it is over the carry-on limit.</i>
Instructions	<i>Sign here</i>	<i>if you accept the terms.</i>
Orders	<i>Report to our centre</i>	<i>if you witness abuse.</i>



Reminder!

We can use the following expressions to talk about different situations and their predicted results.

Conditional expressions	Examples
<i>unless</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unless I sleep well, I cannot focus at work. ▪ You can't pay unless you enter the passcode.
<i>otherwise</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bring a map, otherwise you'll be lost. ▪ Maintain social distance. Otherwise, you may risk infection.
<i>or (else)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exercise or (else) you'll get weak. ▪ Don't believe in fairy tales or (else) you may have false hopes about life.
<i>provided that / on condition that</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ He will be a permanent employee provided that / on condition that he passes the probation period. ▪ Provided that / On condition that the returned item is unused and in its original packaging, a replacement can be arranged.
<i>as long as / so long as</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Everyone will be safe as long as / so long as they fasten the seat belts. ▪ As long as / so long as the weather permits, we will go camping.
<i>even if</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Even if you apologise, he won't forgive you. ▪ Jane will get the job offer even if she is not the brightest candidate.
<i>if so / if not</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Do you need rest? If so, we can take a break. ▪ Do you have any preference? If not, I would take the window seat.
<i>and</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Take a shower and you'll feel refreshed. ▪ Keep the chicken at room temperature and it will defrost.
<i>in case / in case of</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ I have backed up my phone in case it is lost or stolen. ▪ In case of emergency, use this exit route.



Exercise 1.1

Underline the correct answers for the following sentences.

1. Work-life balance is important (as long as / or) workers (suffer / will suffer) burnout soon.
2. If a caterpillar (is / will be) fully grown, it (becomes / will become) a butterfly.
3. If the dishes (are / will be) dirty, they (attract / will attract) cockroaches.
4. If Jim (doesn't lend / won't lend) you his laptop, (use / can use) mine instead.
5. I (am / will) turn the low power mode on (in case / in case of) I can't borrow a power bank.
6. The suspect said, 'I won't say a word (unless / as long as) my lawyer (is / will be) present.'
7. Does anyone want a refill? (If not / Otherwise), I (take / will take) the kettle back to the kitchen.
8. (Provided that / Even if) the runner (finishes / will finish) the 100m race in less than 9.63 seconds, he (beats / will beat) the Olympic record.



Reminder!

We can use the simple present or present continuous tense in both the *if*-clause and the main clause for present situations.

- *If she is not feeling well, she just takes sick leave and rests.*
- *If the unemployment rate is dropping by 0.5%, it is not dropping fast enough.*



Exercise 1.2

Leo and Alex are talking on the phone. Complete their conversation using the correct form of the given verbs and conditional expressions.

unless even if and
as long as or else if-so

call fall behind want know note down
tell reply show not ask not be

Leo: Hey Alex, are you free to talk? (1) If so, I (2) want to ask you something. If it (3) _____ the right time to call, I (4) _____ again later.

Alex: I'll be free (5) _____ my sister (6) _____ me to play with her. But (7) _____ she does, I (8) _____ her I'm busy with schoolwork. Anyway, what's on your mind?

Leo: If you (9) _____ how to access the maths question bank Mr Leung created for us, please (10) _____ me the steps. I have to start preparing for the exam (11) _____ I (12) _____.

Alex: I can't remember. I forget things easily (13) _____ I (14) _____ everything. I have Mr Leung's number though ... Text him (15) _____ he (16) _____ very soon.

PART 2 Type 2 conditionals

We use **Type 2 conditionals** to talk about present or future imaginary situations. We use the simple past tense in the **if-clause** and **would + bare infinitive** in the main clause.

Situation	If-clause	Main clause
Present or future imaginary situations	<i>If I had a car,</i> simple past tense	<i>I would drive my son to school every day.</i> would + bare infinitive
	(I do not have a car now.)	
	Main clause	If-clause
	<i>Marie would give us some guidance</i> would + bare infinitive	<i>if she was / were here.</i> simple past tense
	(Marie is not here now.)	

We use **were** instead of **was** in the **if-clause** in the following situations:

Situations	Examples
Imaginary situations that can never be true	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>If I were a cat, I would spend all the nine lives with the ones I love.</i> ▪ <i>I would risk everything to land on Mars if I were Elon Musk.</i>
To give advice	<i>If I were you, I would not stop training.</i>



Reminder

Would can be replaced by **might** or **could** in Type 2 conditionals.

Modals	Situations	Examples
<i>might</i>	To show possibility	<i>If more people liked this sitcom, there might be a season two.</i> (This sitcom is not popular now.)
<i>could</i>	To show ability	<i>John could save the drowning girl if he knew how to swim.</i> (John does not know how to swim.)



Exercise 2.1

Rewrite the sentences in **Type 2 conditionals**. Do not use contractions.

- The post office will reject your letter because it does not have a stamp.
If your letter had a stamp, the post office would not reject it _____.
- Why do you think that you have no talent for chess? The chess master thinks well of you!
If _____.
- I suggest that you purchase a portable charger for the phone.
I _____.
- Tom thinks that Samuel should pull himself together after the breakup.
If Tom _____.
- The student is allowed to use a calculator so that he can solve the problems.
The student _____.
- I may not speak my mind to these people. They are not my close friends.
If _____.



Exercise 2.2

Celia is reading a blog post. There are some mistakes. Correct the underlined mistakes and write the correct words in the spaces provided.

Endless Support To AMOURS

AMOURS is kicking off their concert in Seoul this week. I'm a big fan of this Korean boy group. If I (1) have time, I would definitely fly to Korea for the concert. I do not know why Hong Kong is not one of their world tour's destinations. If I (2) was their manager, I (3) will consider this option. It (4) might be so cool if they held a concert here. If they (5) arrange a meet-and-greet, their fans would be thrilled.

All members of AMOURS are dance masters. I might appreciate them less if I (6) am not a dancer myself. My instructor always mocks me, 'Practise more or else you (7) never dance like them.' If I (8) showed her some of their choreography videos, she may be even more impressed.

Singing is not their strength, though.

If I were their singing coach, they (9) will have a hard time. If their songs (10) were so beautifully written, I would not be so harsh. It's such a waste of the lovely melodies.



1. _____ had _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

PART 3 Type 3 conditionals

We use Type 3 conditionals to talk about imaginary situations in the past. We use the past perfect tense in the *if*-clause and *would have + past participle* in the main clause.

Situations	<i>If</i> -clause	Main clause
To talk about something that did not really happen	<i>If Dr Lee had studied law instead,</i> past perfect tense	<i>she would have become a judge.</i> <i>would have + past participle</i>
(Dr Lee didn't study law and didn't become a judge.)		
To express regret	<i>Jess wouldn't have left me</i> <i>would have + past participle</i>	<i>if I had spent more time with her.</i> past perfect tense
	(I did not spend enough time with Jess so she left me. I regret not spending more time with her.)	

Reminder!

Would can be replaced by *might* or *could* in Type 3 conditionals.

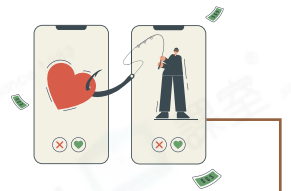
Modals	Situations	Examples
<i>might</i>	To show possibility	<i>If I had kept my temper, I might not have offended my friends. (I lost my temper.)</i>
<i>could</i>	To show ability	<i>The contestant could have entered the final if he had not made that fatal mistake. (The contestant made a fatal mistake.)</i>

Exercise 3.1

DRILL

Write sentences in Type 3 conditionals with the help of the given words. Do not use contractions.

- my laptop / last longer—I / not buy a new one (would)
If my laptop had lasted longer, I would not have bought a new one _____.
- I / develop a wide vocabulary—I / have a good reading habit (would)
I _____.
- she / not fall prey to the swindler—she / be more vigilant (would)
She _____.
- Daniel / be more considerate—he / not hurt Oliver's feelings (might)
If _____.
- we / play chess together—Benedict / stay overnight (could)
We _____.



Exercise 3.2

Level Up

Chris is writing a weekly journal entry. Rewrite the entry using Type 3 conditionals. Do not use contractions.

20th–26th October

(1) I bought a pair of sneakers because the old pair was worn out. (2) The store I went to regularly was closed so I went to the one next to it. The salesperson there lured me into buying a pair of limited-edition sneakers. (3) They looked chic so I bought them. Yet, they crumbled in just a week! (4) I could not get an exchange as the warranty had expired. (5) I am not wasteful so I continued wearing them. (6) I did so although people might tease me behind my back.



- I would not have bought a pair of sneakers if the old pair had not been worn out _____.
- If _____.
- If _____.
- I _____.
- I _____.
- If _____.

Grammar Wrap-up

Richard is reading an interview. Complete the interview using the correct form of the given verbs.

Host: As an Energy Efficiency Ambassador of the government, you must have a lot to talk about the city's energy structure. Could you share the information with us?

Emily: If the government (1) _____ had developed _____ (develop) its own energy, it (2) _____
 _____ (not rely on) the private sector to supply the city's energy. In Hong Kong,
 there are two power companies. If you (3) _____ (live) in Kowloon, the
 New Territories or one of the outlying islands, CLP Power (4) _____ (supply)
 electricity to you. I live in Mong Kok. If I (5) _____ (live) on Hong Kong Island,
 the Hongkong Electric Company (6) _____ (become) my electricity supplier.

Host: Energy conservation has always been a hot topic among eco-conscious people. What has the government done to conserve energy?

Emily: More than you could imagine! For example, if we (7) _____ (not introduce)
 the Mandatory Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme in 2009, many consumers of electrical
 appliances (8) _____ (can—not choose) the appliances that consume less
 electricity. Consider someone who wishes to buy a refrigerator or a washing machine. If I
 (9) _____ (be) them, I (10) _____ (examine) the energy
 label on every single appliance. The government is also aware of the environmental benefits of
 developing renewable energy. If renewables (11) _____ (make up) three to
 four per cent of the total energy consumption, we (12) _____ (can—reduce)
 our reliance on fossil fuels some day. Fossil fuels generate a lot of
 greenhouse gases. If we (13) _____ (use) renewable
 energy more widely, our city (14) _____ (be) much
 greener in the near future.



Brain Breaks

What might a wind turbine say to its maker?

Answer: 'Hey! I'm a big fan of your work!'



Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme: Resources and energy conservation

You are writing a feature article. Complete the article. Put the conditional expressions in the boxes. Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the given verbs. Use modal verbs where necessary.

unless or on condition that as long as

be be not burn continue develop have make
run out slow down spare start suffer take up think

Words by Theme



The Unseen Costs of Fossil Fuels¹

Fossil fuels (products formed from the remains of plants and animals) have been our main source of energy for long. (1) we use oil, coal and petroleum products such as plastics and paint, we (2) a disastrous² impact on the environment and our health.

Energy consumption³ in developed countries is high because of the high level of car ownership and the prevalence of domestic appliances⁴. The energy consumption in these countries (3) to rise (4) their population growth and economic development (5) . If you (6) that energy consumption of developing countries remains low, you (7) wrong. By 2030, India will have overtaken the European Union as the world's third largest energy consumer.

The environmental cost of burning fossil fuels is beyond imagination. The oil spilt during drilling and mining has polluted⁵ sources of drinking water and jeopardised⁶ the ocean ecosystems⁷. If we (8) fossil fuels, we (9) extreme climate events⁸. If we (10) a time machine, all countries would have to rethink whether to risk their people's health for development or not. If there had not been smog⁹ caused by greenhouse gases, less people (11) asthma¹⁰.

We (12) alternative sources of energy, such as solar¹¹, wind and hydroelectric¹² power as well as biofuels¹³, (13) the current fossil fuel reserves¹⁴ (14) in a century. If I (15) the world leaders, I (16) no effort to curb the harm that fossil fuels are doing to our health and the environment. This can be achieved (17) all countries (18) resorting to better energy alternatives.



We can use Type 2 conditionals to talk about imaginary situations that can never be true or to give advice. We can use Type 3 conditionals to talk about situations that did not really happen or to express regret.

- If we mix red with yellow, we get orange. (Type 0 conditional)
- If Ivy snacks too much, she will skip dinner. (Type 1 conditional)
- If cats **were** humans, their acts **might not be tolerated**. (Type 2 conditional)
- If the shop **had apologised** sincerely, criticism **would not have arisen**. (Type 3 conditional)

Version 1

Jenna is reading an office memorandum about energy conservation. Read the memorandum and pay attention to the underlined sentences.

Memorandum

Date: 20 May 20XX

To: All Employees

From: Department of Human Resources

Subject: **Green Office Measures** (saving resources and energy in the office)

Over the past few months, we have noted instances of abuse of office resources. **(1) We are certain that they occurred.** Otherwise, the electricity bills for these months would not have been so high.

To cut energy costs, we are introducing the following measures. **(2) Please follow them strictly.** The company will appreciate it.

- **(3) The last person to leave the office has to turn off all the air conditioners and lights.** **(4) If no one does so, they will keep operating overnight.** This causes a huge waste of energy.
- **(5) The person who turns on the air conditioners should set them to 26 degrees Celsius.**
- **(6) Put the photocopiers in sleep mode when they are not in use.**
- Watch out for the microwave ovens while using them. **(7) Otherwise, the ovens that are left empty and running may get overheated.**
- The hot water is for drinking. **(8) Do not use it to clean cups or other people will not be able to have any to drink.**

Thank you for your co-operation.

We welcome any opinions.

(9) I suggest installing sensor lights but I am not the manager.

Meg

(10) The company has told us to work overtime for months. Perhaps this is why the bills have been that high.

Rachel

Version 2

Rewrite the underlined sentences in Version 1 based on the instructions.

Memorandum

Date: 20 May 20XX

To: All Employees

From: Department of Human Resources

Subject: **Green Office Measures** (saving resources and energy in the office)

Over the past few months, we have noted instances of abuse of office resources. **(1)** If they had not occurred, the electricity bills for these months would not have been so high. (Type 3: *If ...*)

To cut energy costs, we are introducing the following measures. **(2)** _____ (Type 1: *... if you ...*)

- **(3)** _____ (Type 0: *If you ... have to ...*).

(4) _____ (Type 1: imperative, *... or else ...*)

This causes a huge waste of energy.

- **(5)** _____ (Type 1: *If you ...*, imperative)

- **(6)** _____ (Type 1: *Provided that ...*, imperative)

- Watch out for the microwave ovens while using them. **(7)** _____ (Type 1: *If the ovens ...*)

- The hot water is for drinking. **(8)** _____ (Type 1: *If you ... cannot ...*)

Thank you for your co-operation.

We welcome any opinions.

(9) _____

 _____ (Type 2: *If ...*)

Meg

(10) _____

 _____ (Type 3: *... might ... if ...*).

Rachel