

If you should... En caso de que ...

We can use "should" in an if-clause to talk about something which is possible but not very likely.

- If he should call, tell him I will ring back.
- If I should see him, I'll ask him to ring you.
- If you should find it, don't tell anyone.
- If you should find it, put it somewhere safe.
- If you should see him, tell him I was here.
- If there should be a problem, don't hesitate to call.

If you will... si te va a ...

Conditional ("if") sentences are made of two parts. One shows a result and the other a condition that has to be met for the result to be achieved.

Example : If you help me today, I will help you tomorrow.

However, if we are talking about future results rather than conditions, an if - will clause is used.

Examples:

- If (you think) it will save our marriage, I'll try to give up drinking.
- I'll help to pay the course fees, if that will persuade you to apply to university.
- Take the whole of next week off, if that will help you to recover.

if you will... = if you insist on... si sigues...

In this case the if-clause does not refer to future possibility, but instead has the same meaning as the verb insist on.

In this usage a lot of word stress is placed upon will:

- If you will smoke twenty a day, it's not surprising you have a hacking cough.
(If you insist on smoking so much, it's not surprising you have a hacking cough)
- If she will eat so many chocolates, it's hardly surprising she has a spotty face.

if you won't... = if you refuse to... si te niegas a...

Similarly, the negative of will in the if-clause has the same meaning as refuse to. As you read these examples, remember to place heavier word stress than normal on won't:

Examples :

- If she won't come to Sardinia with us, there's nothing we can do to make her.
(If she refuses to come to Sardinia with us, there's nothing we can do to make her.)
- What shall we do, if she won't agree to have the operation?
(what shall we do, if she doesn't want to have the operation?)
- Well if you won't come willingly, you shall come unwillingly.

If we apply it to an inanimate object, we'd take it as personification:

- If my car won't start, we'll have to walk.

if you will / would = if you wouldn't mind...

si no te importa...

Here we are using if + will or if + would as polite requests with the same meaning as if you wouldn't mind.

Examples:

- If you'll just fill in this form before you go, you can hand it in to reception.
(If you wouldn't mind filling in this form before you go, you can leave it with reception.)
- If you would take a seat, the doctor will see you in five minutes.
(If you wouldn't mind taking a seat, the doctor will see you in five minutes.)
- If you will come this way, the manager will see you now.
(If you wouldn't mind to come this way...)