

MIXED CONDITIONALS

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We can mix the second and third conditionals:

if + 2nd conditional / 3rd conditional

This type of mixed conditional expresses a general condition with an imaginary result in the past:

| if + 2nd conditional hypothetical general condition | 3rd conditional imaginary result in the past |
|---|--|
| If I spoke better Italian, | I could have got the job. |
| (I don't speak Italian well enough, so I didn't get the job) | |
| If you were strong , | you wouldn't have needed any help to lift the weight. |
| (you are not strong; that's why you needed help to lift the weight) | |
| If he were so good, | he would have won the match. |
| (He is not so good; that's why he didn't win the match) | |

if + 3rd conditional / 2nd conditional

This type of mixed conditional expresses a hypothetical condition in the past with an imaginary result in the present:

| if + 3rd conditional sth that could have been different in the past (regret or gratitude) | 2nd conditional Imagining the result in the present (positive or negative) |
|--|---|
| If you had followed my advice, | you wouldn't be in trouble now. |
| (You didn't follow my advice, and now you are in trouble) | |
| If I hadn't drunk so much last night, | I wouldn't have a hangover now. |
| (I drank too much last night; that's why I have a hangover now) | |
| If I had not applied for the job, | I would be unemployed now. |
| (I applied for the job; that's why I'm not unemployed now) | |