

# Polite Conditionals

## REQUEST *if you will... / if you would...*

In the main clause, “Will” expresses a future condition, and “Would” unreal or imaginary situations. However, “Will” and “Would” in the clause after if express a polite request for someone to do something.

**“If you will/would do ...” = “If you are willing to...”**

I would be grateful

IF CLAUSE	MAIN CLAUSE
If you will step this way please,	I will show you to your table.
If you will kindly wait a moment please,	then I will help you.
If you would care to leave your name,	we'll contact you as soon as possible.
If you would send me further details of the programme,	I would really appreciate it.

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**If you will give  
me a moment, I'll  
be right with you.**



## WISH *if you will ...*

Will in the clause after if expresses an indirect request or a wish, a situation slightly more likely to happen (optimistic) than when using If only (a regretful wish).

IF CLAUSE	PREDICTED EFFECT
If he will just try a little harder,	he will succeed. (wish)
If she will only listen a moment,	I could explain myself. (wish)
If you will just take a moment to think it over,	you will understand better. (wish)