

A NOTE TO REMEMBER

The first conditional is one of four types of hypothetical sentence in English, and it is probably the most commonly used. In which situations can we use it and why?

When to use the first conditional

The first conditional is used to express the future consequence of a realistic possibility now or in the future. For example,

If I miss the train, I'll take the next one.

There is a 50% chance that the first part of this sentence (the action following 'if') will happen. And if it happens, the second part is 100% certain.

Creating the first conditional

To make a sentence in the first conditional, we use:

If + present simple, will/won't + verb.

If I pass this exam, I'll celebrate.

If I pass this exam, I won't have to do it again.

Like all conditionals, we can also invert this structure:

Will + verb if + present simple.

I'll celebrate if I pass this exam.

I won't have to do this exam again if I pass it.

Reference:

Wall Street English (s.f.). The First Conditional. Retrieved from:
<https://www.wallstreetenglish.com/exercises/the-first-conditional>