

Conditional sentences II

Spanish · British English › Spanish

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Conditional Type II (Unreal) in Spanish

Hello! Today we're diving into the fascinating world of Spanish Conditional Type II sentences, which talk about hypothetical or unreal situations in the present or future. It's like saying, "If I had money, I would buy..."

This mood is incredibly useful for expressing what would happen if a condition were met that is unlikely or impossible to fulfil at a given moment. The key structure you need to remember is the combination of two tenses: the **Imperfecto de Subjuntivo** in the 'si' (if) clause, and the **Condicional Simple** in the main clause.

Si + **Imperfecto de Subjuntivo** + ..., ... + **Condicional Simple** + ...

Let's start with the **Imperfecto de Subjuntivo** (Imperfect Subjunctive). We form it by taking the third person plural (ellos/ellas/ustedes) of the **Pretérito Indefinido** (Simple Past or Preterite), dropping the `ron` ending, and then adding the new endings. Remember, there are two equivalent sets of endings: **-ra, -ras, -ramos, -rais, -ran** and **-se, -ses, -se, -semos, -seis, -sen**. In Spain, the `ra` form is more commonly used.

Pronoun	Hablar (-ra)	Tener (-ra)	Ser/Ir (-ra)
yo	habla ra	tuvie ra	fue ra
tú	habla ras	tuvie ras	fue ras
él/ella/usted	habla ra	tuvie ra	fue ra
nosotros/as	habla ramos	tuvie ramos	fue ramos
vosotros/as	habla rais	tuvie rais	fue rais
ellos/ellas/ustedes	habla ran	tuvie ran	fue ran

Next up is the **Condicional Simple** (Simple Conditional). Luckily, this one is easier! We add the same endings to the infinitive of the verb for all verb types (-ar, -er, -ir). Do remember that irregular infinitives will have a changed stem (just like in the **Futuro Simple**).

Pronoun	Comer	Hacer	Poder
yo	comer ía	har ía	podr ía
tú	comer ías	har ías	podr ías
él/ella/usted	comer ía	har ía	podr ía
nosotros/as	comer íamos	har íamos	podr íamos
vosotros/as	comer íais	har íais	podr íais
ellos/ellas/ustedes	comer ían	har ían	podr ían

Top tip: Si + Imperfecto Subjuntivo, Condicional Simple! They're like two peas in a pod, always going together in this type of conditional sentence. Think: "If I were to (Subjunctive), I would (Conditional)".

Common mistake! Never use the conditional mood (*Condicional Simple*) directly after "si" in Conditional Type II sentences. Instead of **Si tendría dinero...* you should say *Si tuviera dinero...*!

- **Expressing unreal or hypothetical conditions in the present or future.**
`Si ganara la lotería, dejaría mi trabajo.` (If I won the lottery, I would quit my job.)
- **Giving polite advice (often with "yo que tú" or "si fuera tú").**
`Yo que tú, si fuera tú, estudiaría más.` (If I were you, I would study more.)
- **Making polite requests or suggestions.**
`¿Podrías ayudarme si tuvieras un momento?` (Could you help me if you had a moment?)

Si tuviera dinero, compraría una casa grande.

If I had money, I would buy a big house.

Si estudiaras más, aprobarías el examen sin problema.

If you studied more, you would pass the exam without a problem.

Me gustaría que vinieras si pudieras.

I would like you to come if you could.

Remember that Conditional Type II sentences are used to express dreams, wishes, advice, or hypothetical situations that are not certain or easy to fulfil. Practise regularly, and you'll quickly master this important element of Spanish grammar! ¡Mucha suerte!

Part 1 – Choose the correct word

Circle the option that correctly fills each gap.

1. Si me _____ una carta, me _____.

If you wrote me a letter, I would be moved.

Gap 1: A) escribas B) escribirías C) escribías D) escribiras

Gap 2: A) emocione B) emocionará C) emocionaría D) emociona

2. Si yo _____ la respuesta, te la _____.

If I knew the answer, I would tell it to you.

Gap 1: A) sé B) sabría C) sepa D) supiera

Gap 2: A) diría B) diré C) digo D) diga

3. Si ellos _____ a la fiesta, _____ más divertida.

If they came to the party, it would be more fun.

Gap 1: A) vendrían B) vinieran C) venían D) vengán

Gap 2: A) será B) sería C) es D) sea

4. Si me _____ eso, me _____ muy mal.

If you told me this, I would feel very bad.

Gap 1: A) dirías B) dijeras C) dices D) digas

Gap 2: A) siento B) sienta C) sentiría D) sentiré

5. Si _____ un balón, _____ al fútbol.

If we had a ball, we would play football.

Gap 1: A) tengamos B) tendríamos C) tuviéramos D) tenemos

Gap 2: A) jugamos B) juguemos C) jugaremos D) jugaríamos

6. Si él _____ ejercicio, _____ en mejor forma.

If he exercised, he would be in better shape.

Gap 1: A) hace B) hiciera C) haga D) haría

Gap 2: A) está B) estará C) estaría D) esté

7. Si _____ ayuda, te la darían sin dudar.

If you asked for help, they would give it to you without hesitation.

A) pedirías B) pidieras C) pidas D) pedías

8. Si _____ un televisor, _____ las noticias.

If we had a television, we would watch the news.

Gap 1: A) tuviéramos B) tendríamos C) tengamos D) tenemos

Gap 2: A) veríamos B) veamos C) veremos D) vemos

Part 2 – Fill in the gap

Write the missing word or phrase on the line.

1. Si _____, _____ ir al concierto.

If you wanted to, we could go to the concert.

2. Si _____ a mi casa, te _____ mi jardín.

If you came to my house, I would show you my garden.

3. Si esa cama cupiera aquí, la _____.

If that bed fitted in here, we would put it in.

4. Si _____ más dinero, _____ sin preocupaciones.

If you had more money, you would live without worries.

5. Si no _____ tanto, _____ más productivo.

If I didn't sleep so much, I would be more productive.

6. Si _____, _____ ir al concierto.

If you wanted to, we could go to the concert.

Part 3 – Translate

Write each word in Spanish on the line.

1. to study › _____

2. to pass › _____

3. to drive › _____

4. to help › _____

5. to enter › _____

6. there to be › _____

Part 4 – Match the pairs

Write the letter of the matching translation next to each term.

Term		Translation	
1.	querer	A	to change
2.	saber	B	to read
3.	cambiar	C	to know
4.	elegir	D	to want
5.	ganar	E	to tell
6.	caber	F	to choose
7.	leer	G	to win
8.	contar	H	to fit

Answer Key

Part 1 — Choose the correct word

1. Gap 1: D) escribieras; Gap 2: C) emocionaría
2. Gap 1: D) supiera; Gap 2: A) diría
3. Gap 1: B) vinieran; Gap 2: B) sería
4. Gap 1: B) dijeras; Gap 2: C) sentiría
5. Gap 1: C) tuviéramos; Gap 2: D) jugaríamos
6. Gap 1: B) hiciera; Gap 2: C) estaría
7. B) pidieras
8. Gap 1: A) tuviéramos; Gap 2: A) veríamos

Part 2 — Fill in the gap

1. quisieras; podríamos
2. vinieras; enseñaría
3. pondríamos
4. tuvieras; vivirías
5. durmiera; sería
6. quisieras; podríamos

Part 3 — Translate

1. estudiar
2. aprobar
3. conducir
4. ayudar
5. entrar
6. haber

Part 4 — Match the pairs

1. D (to want)
2. C (to know)
3. A (to change)
4. F (to choose)
5. G (to win)
6. H (to fit)
7. B (to read)
8. E (to tell)