If Second Conditional Sentences - Unreal Conditions

Class Objective: To be able to understand and use "If" sentences for unreal conditions

Concept A - What is a conditional sentence?

A conditional sentence using "if" is so called as it expresses a condition.

There are two clauses in these sentences: "If clause" or "the conditional clause" and the "main clause" or "the consequence clause".

These sentences tell us the likelihood of another action if a condition is met.

There are three types of conditional sentences

- Type 1 Condition or Open Condition
- Type 2 Condition or improbable/imaginary condition
- Type 3 Condition or unfulfilled condition

There is another type of conditional sentence apart from the three mentioned above, which we can call a Zero Condition. This condition describes universal and scientific truths.

Concept B - Type 2 Condition or improbable/imaginary condition

These sentences are used to describe outcomes which we do not expect to happen or which are purely imaginary.

If Clause - If + Simple Past Tense,

Main Clause - would/should/could/might + infinitive

Examples -

If you studied hard, you would get a first-class score.

If I were you, I would not do that.

If we started now, we could be in time.

Concept C – Punctuation in if sentences

If the conditional clause is before the main clause, use a comma to separate the two.

If the sentence starts with the main clause, a comma is not used.

Examples

If I were you, I should not do that.

I should not do that if I were you.

Practice A - Identify the Type 1 (likely) and Type 2 (improbable) Conditional sentences:

- 1. If you rested, you would feel better.
- 2. If I were you, I should not do that.
- 3. If we started now, we could be in time.
- 4. If you set your mind to a goal, you will eventually achieve it.
- 5. If I find the pen, I shall give it to you.
- 6. If I found the pen, I should give it to you.
- 7. If I studied hard, I would pass the examination.

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