石家庄铁道大学
SHIJIAZHUANG TIEDAO UNIVERSITY

网络精品课程

大学英语

虚 拟 语 气

主讲 ： 张 云 岗

Unreal Conditions

To make predictions, you may find unreal conditional clauses useful. Unreal conditions are either impossible or unlikely to be realized. In unreal conditional sentences, a contrary-to-fact condition exists.

Example

Present Time:

If this **was allowed** to happen, the dam **would** collapse.

If the dam **collapsed**, many acres of good farmland **would disappear.**

Example

Past Time:

If this **had not been allowed** to happen, the dam **would not have collapsed.**

Example

Past Time with Present or Future Result:

If they **had passed the law**, the economy **would be** in better shape now.

Exercises

EXERCISES

Exercise 17

Exercise 18

Exercise 19

Exercise 20

Example

If the weather is warm, I *will go* swimming.
If the weather were warm, I <u>would go</u> swimming.
If the weather had been warm, I <u>would have gone</u> swimming.

1.   If I have time, I will write some letters.

   If I had time, I **would write** some letters.

   If I had had time, I **would have written** some letters.

Example

If the weather is warm, I *will go* swimming.
If the weather were warm, I <u>would go</u> swimming.
If the weather had been warm, I <u>would have gone</u> swimming.

2.   If he makes an appointment, he can see the director.

If he made an appointment, he **could see** the director.

If he had made an appointment, he **could have seen** the director.

Example

If the weather is warm, I *will go* swimming.
If the weather were warm, I <u>would go</u> swimming.
If the weather had been warm, I <u>would have gone</u> swimming.

3. If I slip on the ice, I may break my leg.

If I slipped on the ice, I <u>**might break**</u> my leg.

If I had slipped on the ice, I <u>**might have broken**</u> my leg.

Example

If the weather is warm, I *will go* swimming.
If the weather were warm, I <u>would go</u> swimming.
If the weather had been warm, I <u>would have gone</u> swimming.

4.   I will lock the door if you give me a key.

I would lock the door if you <u>**gave**</u> me a key.

I would have locked the door if you <u>**had given**</u> me a key.

Example

If the weather is warm, I *will go* swimming.
If the weather were warm, I <u>would go</u> swimming.
If the weather had been warm, I <u>would have gone</u> swimming.

5. We can go on a picnic if the weather is nice.

We could go on a picnic if the weather __**were**__ nice.

We could have gone on a picnic if the weather __**had been**__ nice.

Example

I didn't know you were there. I didn't telephone.
a. If I had known you were there, I would have telephoned.
b. Had I known you were there, I would have telephoned.

1. I didn't hear you. I didn't answer.

   a. **If I had heard you, I would have answered** .

   b. **Had I heard you, I would have answered** .

Example

I didn't know you were there. I didn't telephone.
a. If I had known you were there, I would have telephoned.
b. Had I known you were there, I would have telephoned.

2. It was cold. I didn't open the window.

a. **If it hadn't been cold, I would have opened the window** .

b. **Had it not been cold, I would have opened the window** .

Read each pair of sentences. Then express a contrary situation using a) a sentence with an if clause and b) a sentence with had. Follow the examples.

Example

I didn't know you were there. I didn't telephone.
a. If I had known you were there, I would have telephoned.
b. Had I known you were there, I would have telephoned.

3. We weren't late. We didn't hurry.

a. **If we had been late, we would have hurried** .

b. **Had we been late, we would have hurried** .

Example

I didn't know you were there. I didn't telephone.
a. <u>If I had known you were there, I would have telephoned.</u>
b. <u>Had I known you were there, I would have telephoned.</u>

4. You didn't use a typewriter. They couldn't read your letters.

a. **<u>If you had used a typewriter, they could have read your letters</u>**.

b. **<u>Had you used a typewriter, they could have read your letters </u>**.

Ex. 18 Read each pair of sentences. Then express a contrary situation using a) a sentence with an if clause and b) a sentence with had. Follow the examples.

Example

> I didn't know you were there. I didn't telephone.
> a. If I had known you were there, I would have telephoned.
> b. Had I known you were there, I would have telephoned.

5. The car stopped. It didn't hit me.

   a. **If the car hadn't stopped, it would have hit me**.

   b. **Had the car not stopped, it would have hit me**.

Example

If she was in charge, she would do things differently.
Were she in charge, she would do things differently.
If you changed your mind, no one would blame you.
Should you change your mind, no one would blame you.

1. If she was interested, I would telephone her.

   Were she interested, I would telephone her.

Example

If she was in charge, she would do things differently.
Were she in charge, she would do things differently.
If you changed your mind, no one would blame you.
Should you change your mind, no one would blame you.

2. If John was here, we would soon learn the truth.

Were John here, we would soon learn the truth.

Example

If she was in charge, she would do things differently.
Were she in charge, she would do things differently.
If you changed your mind, no one would blame you.
Should you change your mind, no one would blame you.

3. They would be here with us if they had the time.

They would be here with us should they have the time.

Example

If she was in charge, she would do things differently.
<u>Were she in charge, she would do things differently.</u>
If you changed your mind, no one would blame you.
<u>Should you change your mind, no one would blame you.</u>

4. If I saw you, I would invite you home.

<u>Should I see you, I would invite you home.</u>

Example

If she was in charge, she would do things differently.
Were she in charge, she would do things differently.
If you changed your mind, no one would blame you.
Should you change your mind, no one would blame you.

5. If she tried harder next time, she would pass the examination.

Should she try harder next time, she would pass the examination.

Example

Some television programs feature criminals. They will result in increased violence in society.

If television programs did not feature criminals, they would not result in increased violence in society.

1. We allowed the oil company to build this paper mill. Therefore, we have water pollution now.

   If we had not allowed the oil company to build this paper mill, we would not have water pollution now.

Example

Some television programs feature criminals. They will result in increased violence in society.

<u>If television programs did not feature criminals, they would not result in increased violence in society.</u>

2. We pay taxes. Our schools are not closed.

<u>If we did not pay taxes, our schools would be closed.</u>

Example

Some television programs feature criminals. They will result in increased violence in society.

If television programs did not feature criminals, they would not result in increased violence in society.

3. The government did not deal with the crisis properly. Inflation continued to stay at high levels.

If the government had dealt with the crisis properly, inflation would not have stayed at high levels.

Example

Some television programs feature criminals. They will result in increased violence in society.

<u>If television programs did not feature criminals, they would not result in increased violence in society.</u>

4. This university does not have enough student housing. It does not attract more international students.

<u>If this university had enough student housing, it would attract more international students.</u>

Example

Some television programs feature criminals. They will result in increased violence in society.

<u>If television programs did not feature criminals, they would not result in increased violence in society.</u>

5. We did not stop the construction of this dam. We destroyed miles of natural wilderness along the river.

<u>If we had stopped the construction of this dam, we would not have destroyed miles of natural wilderness along the river.</u>