CONDITIONAL STATEMENTS

As you learned briefly before, conditional statements are statements in which something is possible to happen or not to happen, but it is necessary to fulfill certain conditions. There are different kinds of conditional statements. Those that 1) have a reasonable degree of being fulfilled, 2) those that have a remote possibility of happening and 3) those that can't happen at all.

Reasonable possibilities:
If I'm invited to the party, I'll go.
I'll go to the party, if I'm invited.
In the above examples, the verb "invite" is acting as an adjective(invited), but the verb "to be" is in the simple present in the "if clause" .The verb in the dependent clause is in the future tense with "will" because the speaker promises to carry out an action if the condition or conditions are met.

I usually watch TV, if I have time.
If I have time, I usually watch TV.
When using an adverb of frequency as in the above examples, both the "if clause" and the "dependent clause" use the simple present.

If the weather doesn't get better, we won't go to the beach.
We won't go to the beach, if the weather doesn't get better.
In the above examples, both clauses are in the negative form and both conditions still need to be fulfilled to complete the action.
In all of the above examples the conditions have a reasonable possibility of being fulfilled.

Remote possibility:
If I won the lottery, I could buy a brand new car. I
could buy a brand new car, if I won the lottery. If
I won the lottery, I would buy a brand new car. I
would buy a brand new car, if I won the lottery.
In the above examples the speaker is expressing a wish or an idea that they would like to come true. In this case we use the simple past tense in the structure and "would" or "could" in the statement. There is a remote possibility for this to happen.

Impossible situations:
If I were an astronaut, I would go to the moon.
I would go to the moon, if I were an astronaut.
If I were you, I wouldn't smoke so much.
I wouldn't smoke so much, if I were you.
If she were faster, she could win the one hundred meter race in the Olympics.
She could win the one hundred meter race in the Olympics, if she were faster.

Notice that in the first four examples, all of the situations are impossible to happen because the speaker is not the person or never will be the person in the situation they are describing. In the last two examples, the condition is impossible to be met because the person being described doesn't have the required conditions to complete the conditional statement.

Note: In the "if clause" we use the past tense of the verb to be, "were" for all of the subjects. In informal speech sometimes we use "was" for the subjects, but this is uncommon.

CONDITIONAL STATEMENTS WITH THE PAST TENSE.

We can also use conditional statements to express regret about something that we did or did not do in the past. This is like trying to change the (something that is not possible) but we can think and talk about it.

Examples:
If I had gone to the party, I would have had a wonderful time like you guys did.
I would have had a wonderful time if I had gone to the party with you guys.

She could have easily passed the exam if she had studied a little harder.
If she had studied a little harder, she could have easily passed the exam.

If they had come early, they would not have missed the first part of the speech.
They wouldn't have missed the first part of the speech if they had come early.

If she hadn't made a bad investment, she would still have her money.
She would still have her money if she hadn't made a bad investment.

If I hadn't passed the road test, I wouldn't have gotten my driver's license.
I wouldn't have gotten my driver's license if I hadn't passed the road test.

If he hadn't been drinking and driving, he wouldn't have been arrested for DWI.
He wouldn't have been arrested for DWI if he hadn't been drinking and driving.

If it hadn't been raining so hard, we could have gone to the stadium to watch the game.
We could have gone to the stadium to watch the game if it hadn't been raining so hard.

If I had seen you, would have said hello.
I would have said hello if I had seen you.

If I had had the time, I could have come to your party.
I could had come to your party if I had had the time.

Match the first part of the "If Clause" on the left column with the correct second part of the clause on the right column. Write the complete sentences in the space provided blow.

1. If I were an astronaut,	I would take you to the best place in town.
2. If you came to visit me,	I wouldn't have to work so hard.
3. If I had a lot of money,	I would marry her.
4. If she were here,	she could tell you what happened.
5. If I were younger,	they could finish the job earlier.
6. If I lived in New York,	I could go to a Broadway show.
7. If she were single,	he could cure people.
8. If they worked faster,	I could run faster than you.
9. If she were a doctor,	I could fly in a space ship.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10._____

Match the first part of the "If Clause" on the left column with the correct second part of the clause on the right column. Write the complete sentences in the space provided blow.

1. If I had seen you,   I wouldn't have gotten through it.

2. If we had known you were here,   I wouldn't have to work so hard.

3. My mother would have come to the   we would have come to see you.
movies with us,

4. We could have gotten the championship,   if we had played better in the final.

5. If you had promoted your product better,   if we had come to his party.

6. My friend would have gotten very upset   if he had done what his boss told him to do

7. If she had studied harder for the exam,   you could have sold more of it.

8. He wouldn't have gotten fired   if we had invited her.

9. If I had seen that pothole,   she could have gotten a better grade.

10. If she were a doctor,   I would have said hello.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Match the first part of the "If Clause" on the left column with the correct second part of the clause on the right column. Write the complete sentences in the space provided blow.

1. If she hadn't made such a bad investment,   she could have stayed longer with us.

2. If we had stayed a little bit longer,   if they hadn't brought him to the hospital so late.

3. The doctor could have saved the patient's life,   I would have taken it.

4. You wouldn't have gotten a ticket for speeding   if you hadn't been driving above the speed limit.

5. I wouldn't have come to the meeting   I wouldn't have had to borrow it from you.

6. If I hadn't spent all my money,   he would have stopped the car.

7. If she hadn't had to work,   she wouldn't have lost so much money.

8. If he had seen the red light,   we wouldn't have missed the best part of the show.

9. If I had know that the bus stops here,   if you had told me that you were not coming.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10._____