The third conditional

Mastery 2B – unit 15

Grammar – page 111

Language Center









What are some common things people have regrets about?

Read the text. Find Ben's regret.

At my school, all the students study music as well as the other subjects for the national exams. But it's very different from other high schools because music is at the heart of everything at this school. It's a specialist music school. Music practice and preparation for concerts and contests takes several hours of our daily free time. We don't mind, though. If we hadn't practiced so hard and passed our auditions, we wouldn't have been accepted in the first place!

Ben

This is Ben's regret.
Which conditional is that?

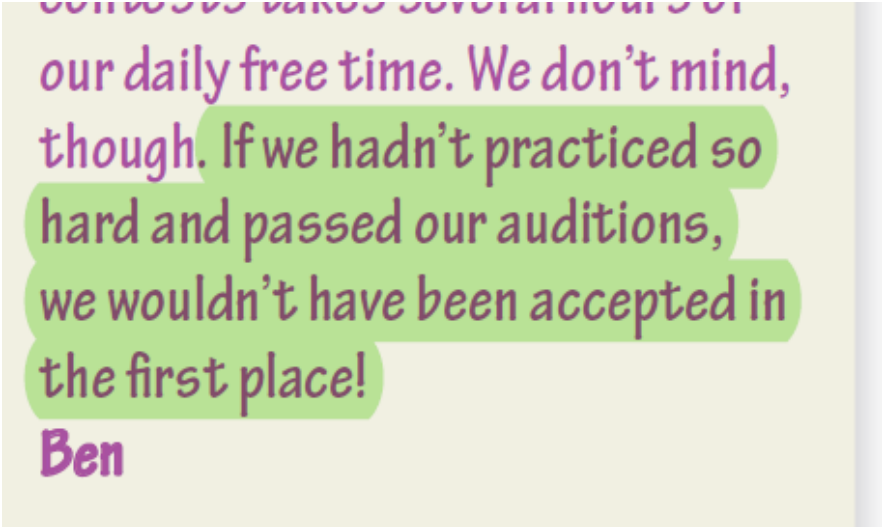
a. The zero
b. The first
c. The second
d. none

At my school, all the students study music as well as the other subjects for the national exams. But it's very different from other high schools because music is at the heart of everything at this school. It's a specialist music school. Music practice and preparation for concerts and contests takes several hours of our daily free time. We don't mind, though. If we hadn't practiced so hard and passed our auditions, we wouldn't have been accepted in the first place!
Ben

Reviewing the zero, first and second conditional

Conditional	How it's built	Example	What it expresses
zero	present simple + present simple	If it rains, you get wet.	This fact is **always true**.
first	present simple + will future	If the weather remains good, I will go for a run during my lunch break.	It is very **likely** that this will happen.
second	past simple + would + infinitive	If I were a millionaire, I wouldn't need to go to work.	I am not a millionaire, so this is **unlikely** to happen any time soon.

The third conditional describes things that did not happen in the past.



If	past perfect	would	have + past participle
If I	had rehearsed the speech	I would not	have made that mistake.
If you	had prepared properly for the interview	you would	have got the job.
If she	had worked harder	she would	have been offered a full-time job.
If they	had left earlier	they would	have been on time.

- **If we had been on time, we wouldn't have missed the train.**
  - Unfortunately, we were late and so we missed it.



GRAMMAR: The third conditional

Student grammar review page W97

5 Complete these sentences from the texts with the third conditional form of the verbs in parentheses.

1 If we hadn't practiced (not practice) so hard, we wouldn't have been accepted (not accept) in the first place.
2 If I _____ (not come) here, I _____ (not have) a chance to start my own business selling T-shirts!
3 If I _____ (not come) to an international school, I _____ (not meet) so many people from so many countries!

6 Complete the sentences in the third conditional.

1 If I hadn't lost (not lose) my ticket, I wouldn't have had (not have) to buy a new one.
2 If she _____ (know) we were coming to visit, she _____ (stay) at home.
3 I _____ (help) you if you _____ (ask) me to.
4 I _____ (not read) the book if I _____ (realize) it was so sad.
5 I _____ (not know) you were English if you _____ (not tell) me.
6 He _____ (find) his book if he _____ (look) for it more carefully.

- In addition to **would**, we can also use modal verbs like **could** or **might** in the **third conditional.**
- This allows you to **express ability or possibility**.

Modal verbs in the third conditional
If I'd studied architecture, I might have become a great architect.
You might not have come to the meeting if you'd known it was going to be about sales targets again!
I could have been really rich by now if I'd bought their stock in 2004.



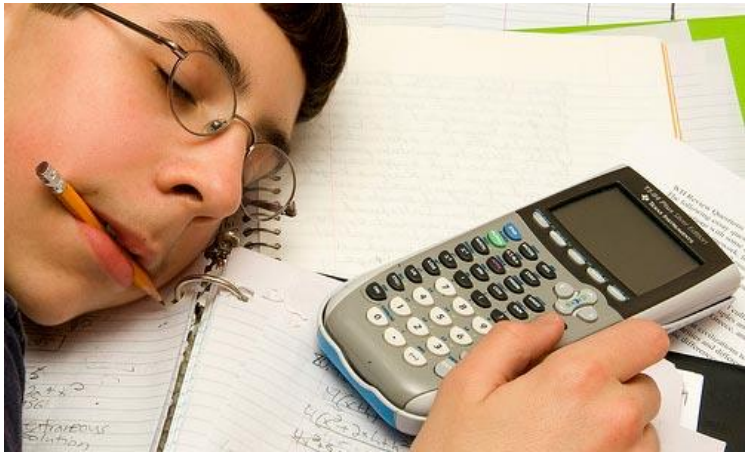
Match the beginnings and endings.

1. I might have got that job...	→	A. if he had studied more.
2. He could have got a better grade...	→	B. if you hadn't insisted on coming to the office.
3. Tina might have gone to the party...	→	C. if I hadn't been out drinking the night before the interview.
4. You could have stayed at home today...	→	D. I might never have got into this situation.
5. If I had been more proactive,	→	E. if her friends had told her the address.

speaking

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Try to make third conditional sentences.

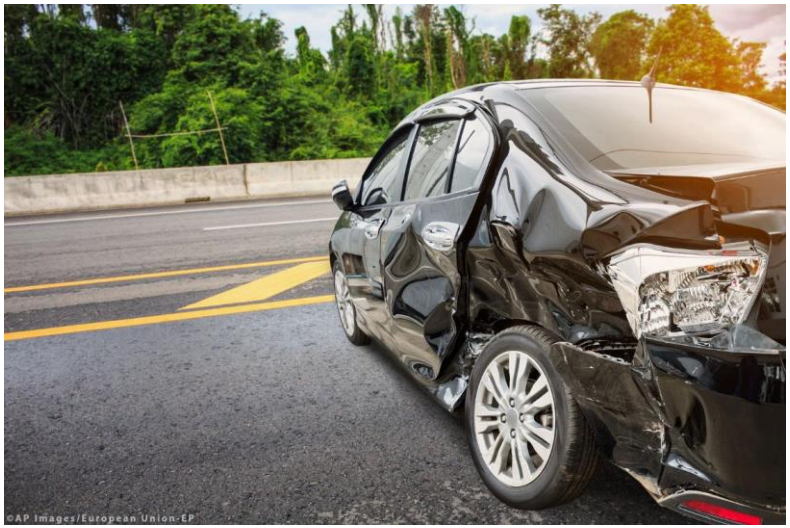




speaking

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Try to make third conditional sentences.





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Try to make third conditional sentences.





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Try to make third conditional sentences.

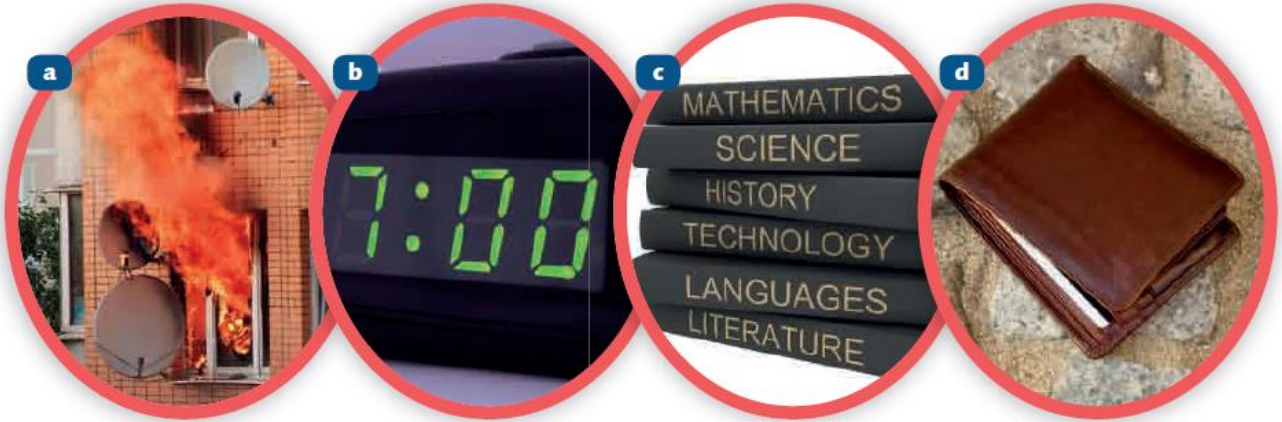




Speaking

SPEAKING

7 Work in pairs. Choose one of the pictures, but don't tell your partner which one you have chosen. Complete the sentences about what you would have done if this situation had happened. Do not say the part of the sentence beginning with *if*. Can your partner guess which situation you are describing?



If I had seen a fire, ...

If I had woken up late, ...

If I had forgotten my schoolbooks, ...

If I had seen a wallet on the sidewalk, ...

Speaking

Think about a former friend or relationship. What are some things you could have or might have done differently?



speaking

1. If you had been born in a different country, what would have been different in your life?
2. What would you have done if you had found out you were a lost child of a European monarch and a successor to the throne?
3. How would your life have been different if you had been growing up with 9 siblings?
4. If you could have studied something else, what would that have been?
5. How would your life have changed if you had done something different that one time?

Homework

Make a presentation.
Imagine you were your parents.
What did/didn't you do?
Use third conditionals.