RULE SHEET

If-sentences: type 1 and type 2



Use **type 1** for things that are possible: they can really happen. Use **type 2** for things that are unreal or not likely: we only imagine them.

	use	if-clause	main clause
type 1	possible, real	if + simple present	will / won't + base form
type 2	unreal, not likely, imagined	if + simple past	would / wouldn't + base form

Examples

- If you **press** this button, the robot **will dance**. (type 1)
- Our dog **will bark** if somebody **rings** the bell. (type 1)
- If I **had** a parrot, I **would teach** it English. (type 2)
- If my brother **were** here, he **would help** us. (type 2)
- What **would** you **do** if you **met** a famous footballer? (type 2)

> **Watch out!** No **will** or **would** in the if-clause: If it **rains** … (not: If it will rain …). Comma after an if-clause at the start: If I **had** time, I **would** come. No comma when **if** is in the middle: I **would** come **if** I **had** time. Type 2 with be: If I **were** you … (also correct: If I **was** …). Short forms: I**'ll**, I**'d**, **won't** = will not, **wouldn't** = would not.

PRACTICE 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Type 1: if + simple present, will

1 Tick the correct verb form.

1. If Amir _____ the bus at eight tomorrow, he will be on time.
   ○ catches ○ will catch ○ caught
2. If it is cold tomorrow, I _____ my scarf. ○ wore ○ will wear ○ wearing
3. If we _____ early, we will get good seats. ○ arrive ○ will arrive ○ arrived
4. If I come home late tonight, Mum _____ me. ○ phoned ○ phoning ○ will phone
5. If Zoe _____ her homework tonight, she won't get a good mark.
   ○ doesn't do ○ won't do ○ didn't do
6. If you _____ me your number, I will send you a message.
   ○ will give ○ give ○ gave
7. We _____ the cake if you don't like chocolate.
   ○ won't make ○ didn't make ○ not make
8. If the dog _____ on the sofa again, Dad will be cross.
   ○ will sleep ○ sleeps ○ slept

2 Match the two halves. Write the letter.

1. ☐ If you water the plants,	a. you won't be safe on your bike.
2. ☐ If Tom misses the train,	b. the roads will be white tomorrow.
3. ☐ If it snows tonight,	c. they will grow.
4. ☐ If you don't wear a helmet,	d. we will buy a new game.
5. ☐ If we save our pocket money,	e. he will be late for the match.