

**Pre-Intermediate 3**  
**Unit 3 Grammar**  
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## Conditional Sentences Type II

In the if-clause of a conditional sentence type II, we use **the past form of the verb**, but in its main clause, we use **“would”, “could”, or “might” and the simple form of the verb**.

Examples:

*If you **invested** your money wisely, you **would** become rich.*  
*If you **invested** your money wisely, you **could** become rich.*  
*If you **invested** your money wisely, you **might** become rich.*  
*You **would** become rich if you **invested** your money wisely.*  
*You **could** become rich if you **invested** your money wisely.*  
*You **might** become rich if you **invested** your money wisely.*

The above-mentioned conditional sentences mean you don't invest your money wisely; therefore, it is impossible for you to become rich.

*If you **were studying** now, you **would** pass the final exam tomorrow.*  
*If you **were studying** now, you **could** pass the final exam tomorrow.*  
*If you **were studying** now, you **might** pass the final exam tomorrow.*  
*You **would** pass the final exam tomorrow if you **were studying** now.*  
*You **could** pass the final exam tomorrow if you **were studying** now.*  
*You **might** pass the final exam tomorrow if you **were studying** now.*

The above-mentioned conditional sentences mean you are not studying now; therefore, it is impossible for you to pass the final exam tomorrow.

### **Point:**

Conditional sentences type II are about **unreal situations** at the moment that seem to be impossible.

situation = the set of things that are happening and the conditions that exist at a particular time and place

Examples:

*If I had more time, I would read more books.*

- I don't have enough time.
- It is not possible for me to read more books.

*She would travel around the world if she won the lottery.*

- It seems improbable for her to win the lottery.
- It is unlikely for her to travel around the world.

*If I had wings, I could fly.*

- I don't have wings.
- Flying is impossible for me.

*If Tom were rich, he would help the poor.*

- Tom isn't rich.
- He can't help the poor.

**Point:**

In standard English, we shouldn't use "was" in the if-clause of a conditional sentence type II. We should use "were" instead.

Example:

**Don't say:** If I **was** the mayor of the city, I would improve public transportation.

**Say:** If I **were** the mayor of the city, I would improve public transportation.



## The Comparison of Type I and Type II:

*If I become rich, I will buy a big house in New York City.* → **Type I: real**

- It is possible for me to become rich.
- It is possible for me to buy a big house in New York City.

*If I became rich, I would buy a big house in New York City.* → **Type II: Unreal**

- It is impossible for me to become rich.
- It is impossible for me to buy a big house in New York City.

**Source:**

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