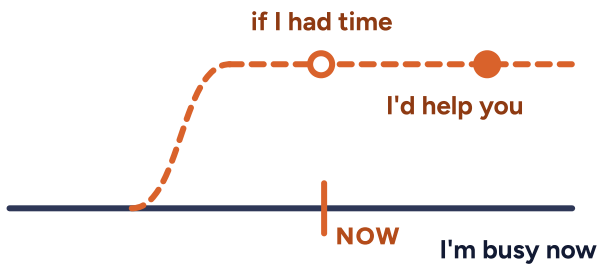


Second vs Third Conditional

Both imagine something unreal. The **second conditional** imagines now or the future: *If I had time, I would help.* The **third conditional** imagines the past: *If I had had time, I would have helped.*

SECOND CONDITIONAL · IMAGINED NOW

If I **had time**, I'd **help** you.



THIRD CONDITIONAL · IMAGINED PAST

If I **had had time**, I'd **have helped** you.



1. Choose the right answer Circle a or b.

- If I _____ his address, I'd send him a card. But I don't.
a) knew b) had known
- If we had left earlier, we _____ the train.
a) would catch b) would have caught
- If she _____ more careful, she wouldn't have had the accident.
a) had been b) were
- If I were taller, I _____ reach the shelf.
a) could b) could have
- If you _____ me, I would have helped.
a) asked b) had asked

2. Correct the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

1. If I had time yesterday, I would help you.

2. If I would have known, I would have come.

3. If I had known, I would help.

3. Your turn

Write two sentences about your own life: one with **Second conditional** and one with **Third conditional**. Then explain the difference to a partner.

See the rule move

The full lesson, with more pictures, examples and a quiz that checks your answers, is free at clarigram.app/compare/second-vs-third-conditional

Second vs Third Conditional

1. Choose the right answer

1. **a) knew** Imagined now: second conditional.
2. **b) would have caught** Imagined past: third conditional.
3. **a) had been** A past event: if + Past Perfect.
4. **a) could** Imagined now: could + base verb.
5. **b) had asked** Imagined past: if + Past Perfect.

2. Correct the mistake

1. **If I had had time yesterday, I would have helped you.** Yesterday is the past, so both parts take the third conditional.
2. **If I had known, I would have come.** Would goes only in the result.
3. **If I had known, I would have helped.** A past result takes would have + participle.

3. Your turn

Answers will vary. Check that each sentence follows the rule on page 1, or paste them into Clarigram to have them checked.