

Second conditional

1 Complete the dialogue with the words in the box. There are two extra words.

could didn't had if we'd were wouldn't you'd

Ethan: Have you started your new job in the department store yet?

Ella: Yes, but my uniform is horrible. If I worked in the women's clothes department, I ¹ _____ wear a nice dress.

Ethan: Yes, but if you ² _____ to help shoppers, ³ _____ have to be polite all day. Anyway, where are you working?

Ella: In the café, but it's so hot. ⁴ _____ the manager turned on the air conditioning, we ⁵ _____ be so sweaty all day.

Ethan: Well, you don't sound very happy. If I ⁶ _____ you, I'd look for another job!

2 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the second conditional.

1 We don't go out to eat very often because we can't afford it.

If _____.

2 Tom can't speak Spanish, so he won't work for a Spanish company.

Tom _____.

3 I haven't got a suit and tie, so I can't go to the party.

If _____.

4 They've got a cat, so they can't get a dog.

They _____.

5 I don't live close to the school, so I can't cycle there.

If _____.

6 Lila isn't good at Biology. She can't be a nurse.

If _____.

3 Complete the sentence below so it is true for you. Then write two more true sentences using the second conditional.

If I went to university, I would ...

Answer key

1

- 1 could
- 2 had
- 3 you'd
- 4 If
- 5 wouldn't
- 6 were

2

- 1 If we could afford it, we'd go out to eat more often.
- 2 Tom would work for a Spanish company if he could speak Spanish.
- 3 If I had a suit and tie, I'd go to the party.
- 4 They'd get a dog if they didn't have a cat.
- 5 If I lived closer to the school, I'd cycle there.
- 6 If Lila was/were good at Biology, she'd be/she could be a nurse.

3

Model answers

- 1 If I went to university, I would study English.
- 2 If I studied English, I could go to England to live.
- 3 If I lived in England, I wouldn't mind the rain.