If conditional clauses – gerunds

Look at the following sentences:

1) If you work hard, you will score good marks.
2) If we catch the 6 o’clock train we shall get there by lunch time.
3) If we caught the 6 o’clock train, we would(could) get there by lunch time.
4) If we had caught the 6 o’clock train, we would have (could) got there by lunch time.

The above sentences are examples of conditional sentences or clauses.

The first part of the sentence introduced by if is called a conditional clause and the second part is the main clause.

The two parts of each sentence may be written in reverse order with no change in meaning.

1) You will score good marks if you work hard.
2) We shall get there by lunch time if we catch the 6 o’clock train.

Note that comma is not used in the above two sentences.

There are three types of if conditional clauses with different pairs of tenses and different meanings. Variations are possible with each type.

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<th>Condition</th>
<th>Structure</th>
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<td>Type 1: Open or Factual condition</td>
<td><strong>Simple present</strong> in the if clause and <strong>simple future</strong> in the main clause</td>
<td>If I become the college student’s president, I will take you to a 3 star hotel.</td>
<td>Shows probability</td>
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| Type 2: Hypothetical or Unreal condition | **Past tense** in the if clause and **present conditional** in the main clause | If I became the college student’s president, I would work for the betterment of the college.  
If I were rich, I would help you. | Shows improbability. The past tense doesn’t refer to the past time but imaginary present or future. |
| Type 3: Impossible               | **Past perfect** in the if clause and **perfect** | If I had become the college student’s | Shows impossibility as it talks about          |
Assignment:

Write 10 sentences ‘using if

Reference: read the poem ‘If’ by Rudyard Kipling.

### Unit 23 – Lesson 35

Try to answer the questions

1) What happens if plants don’t get water?
2) What happens if there is a power failure?

**Answers**

1) If plants don’t get water they wither and die
2) If there is power failure our life almost comes to stand still

Suggest a possible condition that will produce the following results.

1) I will go abroad
2) The match will be cancelled

**Answers**

1) I will go abroad, If I get scholarship.
2) The match will be cancelled, If it rains

What would you do in the following situations

1) Which city would you visit if you were given a chance to visit?
2) What would you do if you were to be in solitary confinement one week?
Answers

1) If I were given a chance to visit a city I would prefer to visit Paris.
2) If I were to be in a solitary confinement, I would carry my favourite novels to read.

Gerunds

Gerunds are verbal nouns. They are formed by the addition of ‘-ing’ to a verb. It has the same form as the past participle, i.e. verb+ing.

Examples: singing, dancing, painting swimming.

It is a verb form which functions as a noun.

‘-ing’ form when used as an action word, it is said to do the function of a verb.

‘-ing’ form when used as a noun is said to be a gerund.

‘-ing’ form when used as an adjective is said to be a participle.

1) Gerund as a subject:
   - Swimming is a good exercise.
   - Exercising keeps one fit.
   - Smoking is bad for health.

2) As an object:
   - Children like playing games.
   - I enjoy singing
   - I love dancing.

3) As subject complements:
   - Seeing is believing
   - One of my hobbies is gardening

4) As objects of preposition:
   - He is fond of eating ice creams
   - He was arrested for taking bribe.
   - He earned money by selling caps.

5) As apposition to a noun (apposition means placing a word or phrase with another word or phrase as an explanation):
   - His ability, securing gold medal in weight lifting is appreciable.

6) As nouns:
   - Raju’s paintings are in great demand.
• Another helping of the pudding made him happy.

7) **As adjectives:**
• We bought a new dining table.
• The dancing hall is a hall of fame.

**Gerunds as passive forms:**
The passive form of the gerund is being + the past participle of the verb.

Ex: The teacher hated being flattered.

The police constable denied being bribed.

**Perfect forms of gerunds:**
The police constable denied having received the bribe.

He is sorry for having done such a mistake.