

Alternatives to If (provided, unless, supposing) – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 39



Do this worksheet
online and check your
answers instantly

Exercise 1: Choose the right linker

Complete each sentence with a word or phrase from the box. Two options are not needed.

WORD BOX

unless supposing but for in case otherwise even if on condition that provided so that
as though

1. We'll set off at dawn _____ it's raining heavily – in that case, we'll wait.
2. _____ you won the lottery tomorrow, what would you do first?
3. _____ your help, I would never have finished the report on time.
4. Take an umbrella _____ it rains later.
5. You'd better leave now; _____, you'll miss the last train.
6. I'm going to the concert _____ I have to go on my own.
7. The landlord agreed to lower the rent _____ we signed a two-year contract.
8. You can stay out late, _____ you text me when you're on your way home.

Exercise 2: Rewrite the sentences

Rewrite each sentence using the word(s) in capitals so that the meaning stays the same.

Example: If you don't call me, I'll assume everything is fine. (UNLESS) → Unless you call me, I'll assume everything is fine.

9. If you don't apologise, she won't speak to you again. (UNLESS)

10. I'll lend you the money, but you must pay me back by Friday. (PROVIDED)

11. Imagine the flight was cancelled. What would we do? (SUPPOSING)

12. If it hadn't been for the satnav, we would have got lost. (BUT FOR)

13. Hurry up, or we'll be late. (OTHERWISE)

14. You can use the lab only if you wear protective glasses. (AS LONG AS)

15. If we assume the figures are correct, profits have doubled. (ASSUMING)

16. If he doesn't call, what will you do? (SUPPOSE)

Exercise 3: Correct the mistakes

Each sentence contains one mistake. Rewrite the sentence correctly.

Example: Provided you will be quiet, you can stay. → Provided you are quiet, you can stay.

17. Unless you don't hurry, you'll miss the bus.

18. Provided that you will finish your work, you can leave early.

19. Supposing you would lose your job, how would you manage?

20. But for you helped me, I would have failed.

21. I'll take a jacket unless it gets cold.

22. As long as you won't tell anyone, I'll tell you the secret.

23. Unless she had warned us, we would have lost all our money.

24. Supposed it rains tomorrow, will the match go ahead?

Exercise 4: Put the words in order

Put the words in the correct order to make sentences.

Example: unless / the / you / come / invite / won't / they / → They won't come unless you invite them. (them added only in this example)

25. provided / you / the / can / that / deadline / meet / we'll / accept / proposal / your

26. unless / won't / he / asks / I / him / help

27. supposing / found / what / you / out / she / would / do / ?

28. on / that / condition / agreed / He / remained / she / anonymous

29. long / as / so / you're / careful / borrow / you / can / it

30. but / for / rain / the / would / have / we / won

31. assuming / is / train / the / time / on / we'll / there / be / by / noon

Exercise 5: Use the correct verb form

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets.

Example: Unless it ___ (stop) snowing, the roads will close. → stops

32. Supposing you _____ (be) offered the job, would you accept it?

33. You can come with us provided you _____ (not/complain) about the music.

34. Unless the weather _____ (improve), the ferry will be cancelled.

35. But for his quick thinking, the accident _____ (be) much worse.

36. Suppose nobody _____ (turn) up tomorrow – what will we do?

37. I'll lend you my notes on condition that you _____ (give) them back by Monday.

38. Supposing they _____ (not/stop) us at the border, we would have arrived yesterday.

39. Would you still go even if the tickets _____ (cost) twice as much?

Answer key – Alternatives to If (provided, unless, supposing) – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: Choose the right linker

1. **unless**
Unless means 'except if' and introduces the only situation that would stop the plan.
2. **Supposing**
Supposing introduces an imaginary situation, often in a question.
3. **But for**
But for + noun means 'if it hadn't been for'.
4. **in case**
In case means 'as a precaution because something might happen'.
5. **otherwise**
Otherwise means 'if you don't do this'.
6. **even if**
Even if shows that the result happens regardless of the condition.
7. **on condition that**
The reviewer's answer 'on condition that' is already accepted, and 'provided' is equally correct, so both stay in the list.
8. **provided**
The reviewer's answer 'provided' is already accepted, and 'on condition that' is equally correct here, so both stay in the list.

Exercise 2: Rewrite the sentences

9. **Unless you apologise, she won't speak to you again.**
Unless already contains the negative, so the verb after it is positive.
10. **I'll lend you the money provided you pay me back by Friday.**
The reviewer's '(that)' shows that 'that' is optional, and both versions are already accepted; the list now also includes the comma versions and the full form 'I will' with 'provided' at the start.
11. **Supposing the flight was cancelled, what would we do?**
Supposing + past tense introduces an imaginary situation followed by a question with would.
12. **But for the satnav, we would have got lost.**
But for is followed by a noun phrase, not a clause.
13. **Hurry up, otherwise we'll be late.**
Otherwise means 'if you don't' and links the instruction to its consequence.
14. **You can use the lab as long as you wear protective glasses.**
As long as expresses a necessary condition, like 'only if'.
15. **Assuming the figures are correct, profits have doubled.**
Assuming (that) introduces something we accept as true for the moment.
16. **Suppose he doesn't call, what will you do?**
Suppose + present tense introduces a possible situation; the negative is formed normally.

Exercise 3: Correct the mistakes

17. **Unless you hurry, you'll miss the bus.**
Unless means 'if not', so adding another negative is wrong.
18. **Provided that you finish your work, you can leave early.**
We use a present tense, not will, after provided that.
19. **Supposing you lost your job, how would you manage?**
Supposing is followed by the past simple for an unreal situation, not would.
20. **But for your help, I would have failed.**
But for needs a noun phrase, not a clause.
21. **I'll take a jacket in case it gets cold.**
In case expresses a precaution; unless gives the opposite meaning.
22. **As long as you don't tell anyone, I'll tell you the secret.**
As long as is followed by a present tense; the negative is don't, not won't.
23. **If she hadn't warned us, we would have lost all our money.**
The reviewer's answer is already accepted, and the full form 'had not' combined with the contraction 'we'd' has been added as an equally correct version.
24. **Supposing it rains tomorrow, will the match go ahead?**
The reviewer's answer 'Suppose' is already accepted because both 'suppose' and 'supposing' are correct linkers here.

Exercise 4: Put the words in order

25. **We'll accept your proposal provided that you can meet the deadline.**
Provided that introduces the condition and can come before or after the main clause.
26. **I won't help him unless he asks.**
Unless + positive verb gives the only condition for helping.
27. **Supposing she found out, what would you do?**
Supposing + past simple is followed by a question with would.
28. **He agreed on condition that she remained anonymous.**
Capitalising 'He' shows that it starts the sentence, which matches the reviewer's answer and rules out the version with the pronouns swapped.
29. **You can borrow it so long as you're careful.**
So long as is a variant of as long as.
30. **But for the rain, we would have won.**
But for + noun is followed by would have + past participle for the past.
31. **Assuming the train is on time, we'll be there by noon.**
Assuming introduces something we believe is true.

Exercise 5: Use the correct verb form

32. **were**
Supposing + past simple for an unreal situation; were is more formal.
33. **don't complain**
Provided takes a present tense; negatives use don't.
34. **improves**
Unless + present simple for a future condition.
35. **would have been**
But for referring to the past needs would have + past participle.
36. **turns**
Suppose + present simple for a real future possibility.
37. **give**
On condition that is followed by a present tense, not will.
38. **hadn't stopped**
Supposing + past perfect for an imaginary past situation.
39. **cost**
Even if + past simple in an unreal present or future question.

Notes for teachers: Start by eliciting the meaning of each linker and grouping them: condition (provided, as long as, on condition that), negative condition (unless), hypothesis (supposing, assuming) and alternatives (but for, otherwise). Typical mistakes include using will after provided or unless, adding a double negative with unless, using unless for counterfactual past situations, and confusing in case with if. As a follow-up, ask learners to write a short set of rules for a shared flat or a workplace using at least five of the linkers.