Conditional Sentences

There Are Two Forms of Conditional Sentences:

IF	Condition Clause	Result Clause	Result Clause	IF	Condition Clause
If	it rains,	the street gets wet.	The street gets wet	if	it rains.

Situation 1: Something that always happens this way (in the present, past, and future).

IF	Condition Clause <present tense>	Result Clause <present tense>	Result Clause <present tense>	IF	Condition Clause <present tense>
If	you heat ice cream,	it melts.	Ice cream melts	if	you heat it.
If	I am late for work,	my boss is angry.	My boss in angry	if	I am late for work.
If	workers don't rest,	they get tired.	Workers get tired	if	they don't rest.

Situation 2: Something that is really possible in the future but does not always happen.

IF	Condition Clause <present tense>	Result Clause WILL + <base verb>	Result Clause WILL + <base verb>	IF	Condition Clause <present tense>
If	I am late,	I will miss lunch.	I will miss lunch	if	I am late.
If	it rains,	what will you do?	What will you do	if	it rains?
If	they fail the test,	their teacher will be sad.	Their teacher will be sad	if	they fail the test.

You can sometimes use "can" or "may" instead of "will":

If	you try hard,	you can win.	You can win	if	you try hard
If	you finish all your work,	you may leave early.	You may leave early	if	you finish all your work.

Situation 3: Something that could happen in the future but probably will not happen.

IF	Condition Clause <past tense>	Result Clause WOULD + <base verb>	Result Clause WOULD + <base verb>	IF	Condition Clause <past tense>
If	I won the lottery,	I would buy a new car.	I would buy a new car	if	I won the lottery.
If	it snowed in July,	would you be surprised?	Would you be surprised	if	it snowed in July?
If	you studied all night.	you would be too tired.	You would be too tired	if	you studied all night.

You can sometimes use "could" or "should" or "might" instead of "would":

If	I was rich,	I could stop working.	I could stop working	if	I was rich.
If	I was not working,	I might be happier.	I might be happier	if	I was not working.
If	I had more time,	I should help her.	I should help her	if	I had more time.

Situation 4: Something in the past that did not happen.

IF	Condition Clause <past perfect tense>	Result Clause WOULD HAVE + <past participle>	Result Clause WOULD HAVE + <past participle>	IF	Condition Clause <past perfect tense>
If	I had seen Mary,	I would have told her.	I would have told her	if	I had seen Mary.
If	it had rained yesterday,	what would you have done?	What would you have done	if	it had rained yesterday?
If	I had not been sick,	I would have come.	I would have come	if	I had not been sick.

You can sometimes use "could have" or "should have" or "might have" instead of "would have":

If	you had been here,	you could have helped.	You could have helped	if	you had been here.
If	I had seen the movie,	I might have liked it.	I might have liked the movie	if	I had seen it.