**University of Jijel**

**Department of Media and Communication sciences**

**Level: Second year (Second term)**

**Lesson1:Conditionals**

Conditionals describe the result of a certain condition. The *if* clause tells you the

condition (*If you study hard*) and the main clause tells you the result (*you will pass your exams*). The order of the clauses does not change the meaning.

*If you study hard, you will pass your exams.  
You will pass your exams if you study hard.*

Conditional sentences are often divided into different types.

Zero conditional

We use the zero conditional to talk about things that are generally true,

especially for laws and rules.

*If I drink too much coffee, I can't sleep at night.*

*Ice melts if you heat it.*

*When the sun goes down, it gets dark.*

The structure is: *if*/w*hen* + present simple >> present simple.

First conditional

We use the first conditional when we talk about future situations we believe are

real or possible.

*If it doesn't rain tomorrow, we'll go to the beach.*

*Arsenal will be top of the league if they win.*

*When I finish work, I'll call you.*

In first conditional sentences, the structure is usually: *if*/*when* + present simple

>> *will* + infinitive.

It is also common to use this structure with *unless*, *as long as,* *as soon as* or *in*

*case* instead of *if*.

*I'll leave as soon as the babysitter arrives.*

*I don't want to stay in London unless I get a well-paid job.*

*I'll give you a key in case I'm not at home.*

*You can go to the party, as long as you're back by midnight.*

Second conditional

The second conditional is used to imagine present or future situations that are

impossible or unlikely in reality.

*If we had a garden, we could have a cat.*

*If I won a lot of money, I'd buy a big house in the country.*

*I wouldn't worry if I were you.*

The structure is usually: *if* + past simple >> + *would* + infinitive.

When *if* is followed by the verb *be,* it is grammatically correct to say *if I were*, *if*

*he were*, *if she were* and *if it were*. However, it is also common to hear these

structures with *was*, especially in the *he*/*she* form.

*If I were you, I wouldn't mention it.*

*If she was prime minister, she would invest more money in schools.*

*He would travel more if he was younger.*