

CONDITIONALS AND OTHER TEMPLATES

Conditionals are sentences which work to show different logical scenarios (facts or hypothetical situations, and their consequences). Since conditionals are widely used in academic writing, a familiarization with their function and use is very important.

Typically, conditionals are based on a few different ready-made patterns (or templates) of words. You can follow the pattern to achieve a cause/effect relationship or effect/cause relationship. Moreover, you may use conditionals to show other logical relationships, making them useful for the inclusion of logical appeals.

IF w/ THEN

If _____, then_____.

EX:

If our father loves chocolate, then he will love visiting the chocolate factory.

If Star Trek is about space exploration, then what is Star Wars about?

IF w/o THEN

If _____, [implied then] _____.

EX:

If Christopher dances on the dance floor to the music, his brother might just join us.

If Mimi kissed Jeff last night, why is she with Steve today?

OTHER CONDITIONALS

Some conditionals depend on other words to form conditional statements.

When _____, _____.

EX:

When Meredith comes to work, Jared will help her.

Since _____, _____.

EX:

Since dogs are not allowed, other animals may not be allowed.

OTHER TEMPLATES

As you have probably figured out, the English language is full of different sorts of “Templates” (or statements which can be created based on a set pattern).

Here are a few:

In this paper, _____.

At first glance, _____.

The first section discusses _____, while the second section discusses _____.