

## 16 Conditionals

**Practice Run** Complete the sentences below with the correct verb forms, using what we have discussed about Conditionals.

1. “As long as you **are** sure it **is** perfectly convenient, I **will/shall call** round tomorrow to see Prof. Lane as you **(have) suggested/ are suggesting.**”  
“I **would not have suggested** it unless it **was** convenient. If you **had wanted** to come on Friday it **would have been (would be)** a different matter; she **would be / would have been** too busy to see you.
2. “If I **were** a successful doctor like you, I **would never do** what you **do**: I **wouldn’t go and live** in a town I **didn’t / don’t like**, however much the people **needed** me.  
“If I **wasn’t** a doctor, I **would agree** with you. I **would live** near my family and friends, not where my fellow citizens **need** me most. But I **am** a doctor, and if I **did** that, my skills **would be wasted** . And if I **felt** that was happening, how **would I be able** to justify my choice of career?”
3. “If only we **had** a car. Life **would be** much more pleasant. Today, for instance, I **would have liked** to drive into the country to see and hear the spring. Don’t you think it’s time we **bought** one?” – “It **would be** nice to have a car in some ways if it **weren’t** so expensive and it **didn’t pollute** the atmosphere so much. If we all **continued** to drive cars the way we **do** nowadays, there **would not be** any spring left to see and hear.”
4. “If only you **stopped** worrying about what **may/migh/could/will happen**. It is almost as if you **thought** you **can/could** change things by worrying. But you **cannot**. Suppose I **had worried** like that when I failed the examination last year. It **would not have done** any good.”
5. “It looks as if we **are going to have / have** a long, difficult faculty meeting tomorrow. I am sorry your professor **is coming**. It **would be** a lot easier if he **did not**. Then we **would finish** by six o’clock, but as it is we **will be** there until nine at least. I **would gladly give** a reward to anyone who **can manage** to stop him talking.”
6. “**Would you rather I took** my holidays in February next year instead of March? If I **did**, you **could have** your holidays in April, when the school term **finishes.**”  
“I **would be** most grateful if you **would**. It **would be** great if all the family **could spend / spent** its holiday together for once. It **would be / would have been** a long time since we **were able** to do so.
7. “Good heavens. You look as if you’ve **seen** a ghost.” – “If I **told** you that I **had**, **would you believe me?**” – “No, I **would not** . I **do not believe** in ghosts. If anyone **told** me he **had seen** a ghost, I **would tell** him he only **thought** he **had seen** one and that he **had better** pull himself together.”