

1 Read the situation and choose the sentence (a or b) with a similar meaning.

- 1 I didn't have any money, so I didn't buy a sandwich in the buffet car.
 - a If I'd had some money, I would have bought a sandwich in the buffet car.
 - b If I hadn't had any money, I wouldn't have bought a sandwich in the buffet car.
- 2 He fell asleep in the airport and missed his plane.
 - a If he had missed his plane, he would have fallen asleep.
 - b If he hadn't fallen asleep, he wouldn't have missed his plane.
- 3 They sat in the waiting room because they didn't want to get wet.
 - a If they had wanted to get wet, they wouldn't have sat in the waiting room.
 - b If they had sat in the waiting room, they wouldn't have got wet.
- 4 We didn't go to the lost property office because we found our bag on the platform.
 - a If we had found our bag on the platform, we wouldn't have gone to the lost property office.
 - b If we hadn't found our bag on the platform, we would have gone to the lost property office.
- 5 There weren't any taxis at the taxi rank, so we took a bus.
 - a If there had been some taxis at the taxi rank, we wouldn't have taken a bus.
 - b If there hadn't been any taxis at the taxi rank, we would have taken a bus.
- 6 He didn't go up onto the deck because he was scared of the sea.
 - a If he hadn't been scared of the sea, he would have gone up onto the deck.
 - b If he hadn't gone up onto the deck, he wouldn't have been scared of the sea.

2 Read the story and then write third conditional sentences using the prompts below. Add commas where necessary.

The day that changed my life ...

I was a young artist living in Brighton. One day, I arranged to meet my uncle in London. It was snowy, so I didn't walk to the station. I took a taxi and I caught the first train to London. I arrived in London very early, so I decided to go to a café. I shared a table with an elderly woman because there weren't any free tables. Then I saw my uncle walk past the café, so I ran outside quickly. Because I was in a hurry, I didn't remember to pick up my bag. The woman in the café found my bag and opened it to look for my address. She saw some of my paintings and drawings. She phoned me the next day and offered to show my paintings at her gallery! And that was how a snowy day was the beginning of my career as an artist.

- 1 If it / not be / snowy / I / walk / to the station.

- 2 If I / not take / a taxi / I / not catch / the first train to London.

- 3 If I / not arrive / in London very early / I / not decide / to go to a café.

- 4 If there / be / some free tables / I / not share / a table with an elderly woman.

- 5 If I / not see / my uncle walk past the café / I / not run / outside so quickly.

- 6 If I / not be / in a hurry / I / remember / to pick up my bag.

- 7 If the woman / not open / my bag / she / not see / my paintings and drawings.

- 8 If she / not see / my paintings / she / not offer / to show them at her gallery.

3 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Play 'It's Your Fault!' Choose one of the problems below. Role-play the conversation between the two people. Try to think of reasons why it is the other person's fault. Use the third conditional.

- You have just missed your train to Edinburgh.
- You are at the airport and you've realised that your passports are at home.
- You are on holiday, but your luggage has disappeared.
- You have forgotten your best friend's birthday.

It's your fault! If you had fixed the alarm clock, we wouldn't have got up so late.

No, it's not my fault, it's your fault. If you hadn't spent so long in the shower, we would have left home sooner.

No, it's not my fault, it's your fault. If you

9B Third conditional

Aims: To review and practise the third conditional for talking about imaginary events in the past.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: One handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to choose the correct sentence to describe each situation. Remind them, if necessary, that third conditional sentences describe things which have **not** happened. Go through the first sentence with the class, then students work individually to do the rest of the exercise.

KEY

1 a 2 b 3 a 4 b 5 a 6 a

Exercise 2

- Students read a short story and then complete the third conditional sentences about it. Give students a minute to read through the text first and ask a couple of comprehension questions: *Where did the artist live?* (Brighton) *Why was the artist travelling to London?* (to meet his/her uncle) *Why did the artist go to a café?* (because he/she was very early) Students can then work in pairs to write the sentences from the prompts.

KEY

- 1 If it hadn't been snowy, I would have walked to the station.
- 2 If I hadn't taken a taxi, I wouldn't have caught the first train to London.
- 3 If I hadn't arrived in London very early, I wouldn't have decided to go to a café.
- 4 If there had been some free tables, I wouldn't have shared a table with an elderly woman.
- 5 If I hadn't seen my uncle walk past the café, I wouldn't have run outside so quickly.
- 6 If I hadn't been in a hurry, I would have remembered to pick up my bag.
- 7 If the woman hadn't opened my bag, she wouldn't have seen my paintings and drawings.
- 8 If she hadn't seen my paintings, she wouldn't have offered to show them at her gallery.

Exercise 3

- Students work in pairs. You could remind them of the dialogue on page 98, exercise 1, in which the two people blame each other for being late. Explain that in this exercise, the students will be role-playing a similar situation and trying to find reasons to blame each other, using the third conditional. Invite one or two pairs of students to perform their role-play to the rest of the class.