



Mixed Conditonals Around the World

Hi everyone!

We are group number 10 - Targeting the Verb Phrase. We invite you to join us on our second trip.

In this part of our presentation series we are going to focus on two languages: *German* and *Latin*.

It is worth joining us because at the end of the last trip - presentation - you will receive a *Kahoot!* code and you will have the chance to play for a prize.

We hope you accept our invitation! Enjoy the tour!

Your tour guide is *Borsos Marcell Bendegúz* and the first stop is *German*.

German / Deutsch

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Formation

- If we want to use the conditionals in the German language, we need to use the **Subjunctive** to express uncertainty, doubt or a contrary to reality condition.
- The **Subjunctive** can be used in various tenses. As in English, German builds off the past tense of verbs to form the subjunctive.

haben	to have	infinitive form
hatte	had	imperfect form/ past tense
hätte	would have	subjunctive

sein	to be	infinitive form
war	was/were	imperfect form/ past tense
wäre	would have/were	subjunctive

+ **würden = would** → *Würden* is the subjunctive of werden (will)

- English speakers tend to mix up when to use **hätte** or **wäre**, because in English we use only 1 helping verb, however in German, verbs form their past tense (Perfekt) with 2 helping verbs (haben und sein).

Present + Present

1. Situation: You want to go out with your friends, however you don't have enough time so you say:

➤ **Wenn ich mehr Zeit**

if

more

hätte,

indicates

the conditional

(subjunctive

Konjunktiv II)

könnte ich mit meinen Freunden ausgehen.

could

to go out

[→ \(click to listen\)](#)

'If I had more time, I could go out with my friends.'



Past + Present

2. Situation: You are at home and you want to cook something, but you didn't buy anything before, so you say:

➤ **Wenn ich früher eingekauft hätte, würde ich jetzt etwas kochen.**

before	V3 of the verb "einkaufen" (to go shopping)	would	cook
		würden + infinitive	
		would + infinitive	

[→ \(click to listen\)](#)

'If I had gone shopping earlier, I would cook something now.'



Another situation

3. Situation: You regret not preparing for the exam, because you have failed so you say:

➤ **Wenn ich in der Prüfung nicht durchgefallen wäre, wäre ich jetzt nicht traurig.**

exam

V3 of the verb

now

sad

“durchgefallen“

= to fail

[→ \(click to listen\)](#)

NOTE: In the situation the helping verb is “wäre”, because “durchgefallen” forms its past tense with the helping verb “sein”.

'If I hadn't failed the exam, I would not be sad now.'



Latin / Latinum



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1. CASUS REALIS/INDEFINITUS=CERTAINTY, FACT

- verb of the main and subordinate clause: *indicativus* (indicative); (in all tenses in which it makes sense)
- translation mainly with *indicative*

2. CASUS POTENTIALIS=POSSIBILITY

- verb of the main and subordinate clause: *coniunctivus praesens* (subjunctive, present time)
- *coniunctivus praesens imperfectum* (*imperfect*): expresses **present** tense
- *coniunctivus praesens perfectum* (*perfect*): expresses **past** tense
- translation mainly with *conditional*; (Though *coniunctivus praesens perfectum* expresses an antecedent action, we usually translate it with a present phrase)

3. CASUS IRREALIS=IMPOSSIBILITY

- verb of the main and subordinate clause: *coniunctivus praeteritum* (subjunctive, past time)
- *coniunctivus praeteritum imperfectum* (*imperfect*): expresses **present** tense
- *coniunctivus praeteritum perfectum* (*perfect*): expresses **past** tense
- translation with *conditional*

In Latin grammar terminology *casus mixtus* means 'mixtus=mixed' regarding possibility, not tense.

1. situation: Cicero defends by a speech a poet, Archias and tries to prove the usefulness of literature.

He said:

➤ **'Si nihil ad percipiendam virtutem litteris adiuvarentur, numquam se ad earum
studium contulissent.'** [\(click to listen\)](#) /Pro Archia, Cicero, 7./

'If literature did not help them to gain virtue, they would have never applied themselves to its study.'

→ CASUS IRREALIS

si=if

nihil=nothing

ad percipiendam virtutem=to gain virtue

litteris=literature

adiuvarentur=helped (*coniunctivus praeteritum imperfectum*)

numquam=never

se=themselves

ad earum studium= to learn them

contulissent=(they) would have applied (*coniunctivus praeteritum perfectum*)



2. situation: In Cicero's philosophical-theological work this statement is established regarding the human character.

➤ **'Si homines rationem in malitiam convertunt, non dari illam humano generi melius fuit.'** [\(click to listen\)](#) /De Natura Deorum, Cicero, 3.78/

'If people convert intelligence into viciousness, it would have been better not to give that for the human race.'

→ CASUS REALIS

si=if

homines=people

rationem=intelligence

in malitiam=into viciousness

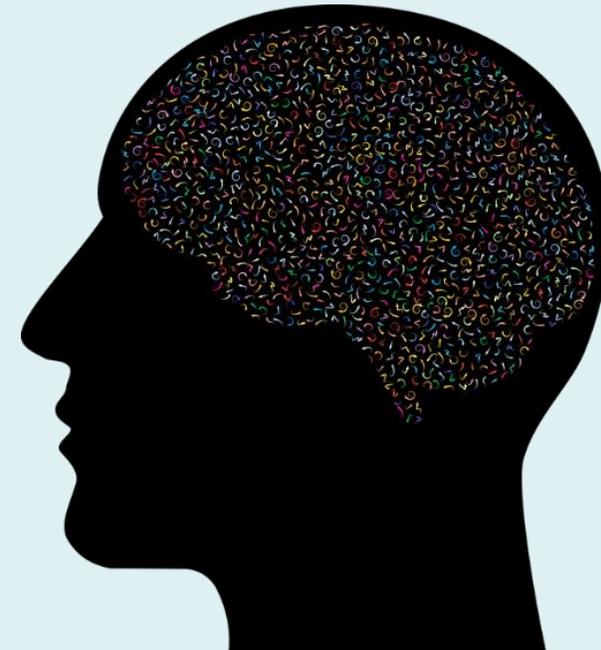
convertunt=convert (*indicativus praesens imperfectum*)

non dari=not to give

illam=that

humano generi=for the human race

melius fu(it) would have been better (*indicativus praesens perfectum* (expresses past tense))



3. situation: In Cicero's work on friendship this admonition is given.

[\(click to listen\)](#)

➤ 'Nulla est igitur excusatio peccati, si amici causa peccaveris.'

/De Amicitia, Cicero, 37./

'Nothing is excuse for sin even if you have sinned because of your friend.'

→ CASUS MIXTUS: main clause (indicativus praesens imperfectum)=CASUS REALIS;

subordinate clause (coniunctivus praesens perfectum)=CASUS POTENTIALIS

Nulla=nothing

est=is (*indicativus praesens imperfectum*)

excusatio peccati=excuse for sin

si=if

amici causa=because of (your) friend

peccaveris=you have sinned (*coniunctivus praesens perfectum*)



4. situation: By the destruction of Troy this lamentation was told.

➤ 'Si mens non laeva fuisset, Troia nunc staret.'

[\(click to listen\)](#)

/Aeneis, Vergilius, II.54-56./

'If mind had not been foolish, now Troy would stand.'

→ CASUS IRREALIS

si=if

mens=mind

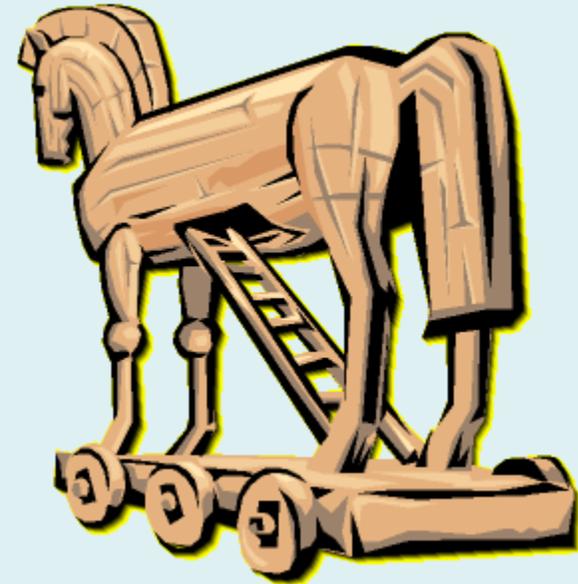
non fuisset= had not been (*coniunctivus praeteritum perfectum*)

laeva=foolish

Troia=~

nunc=now

staret= would stand (*coniunctivus praeteritum imperfectum*)



5. situation: Catull told funnily to his friend, Fabull that he (Fabull) would have a gorgeous lunch at him, but not on his (Catull's) charge.

➤ **'Cenabis bene, si tibi di favent.'** [\(click to listen\)](#)

/Carmina, Catullus, XIII. (Ad Fabullum)/

'You will dine well if gods favor to you.'

→ CASUS REALIS

cenabis=you will dine (*futurum imperfectum*)

bene=well

si=if

tibi=to you

di=gods

favent= favor (*indicativus praesens imperfectum*)



6. situation: Cicero's work about rules, customs, duties.

➤ 'Si gladium quis apud te deposuerit, reddere peccatum sit.' ([click to listen](#))

/ De Officiis, Cicero, 3.95/

'If someone deposes a sword by you, it would be a sin to restore it.'

→ CASUS POTENTIALIS

si=if

gladium=sword (acc.)

quis=someone

apud te=by you

deposuerit=deposes (*coniunctivus praesens perfectum*)

reddere=to restore (inf.)

peccatum=sin

sit=(it) would be (*coniunctivus praesens imperfectum*)





Thank you for your attention!