

## Mixed Conditionals 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 three languages: Ukrainian, Polish and Slovak.

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 second tour guide is Sándor Kamilla and the first stop is Ukraine.

# Ukrainian / українська

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## Conditional mood in Ukrainian

In Ukrainian the conditional mood is formed by:

- → adding the particle **би** (after vowels: **б**) to the form of the **past tense** or the infinitive of the conjugated verb *читав би, прочитала б, погуляти б*.
- This particle is written separately from the verb, it can be placed either before the verb or after it. If the word preceding the particle ends with a vowel we use  $\delta$ , if it ends with a consonant we use  $\delta u$ .
- Examples: Vona b skazala. 'She would tell it.' 'She would have told it.'

  Vin by skazav. 'He would tell it.' 'He would have told it.'
- The particle can refer to any time (the present, past or future).

- 1. Situation: Your friend should have left sooner because it hadn't rained then, you said:
- Якби він вийшов хвилин на п'ятнадцять раніш, дощ не догнав би його.
   (click to listen)

'If he had left 15 minutes early, he would not have soaked.'



- 2. Situation: When you tell a tale about the Black Raven, you say:
- Якби у неї була довга розкішна коса, Ворон упізнав би її ще здалеку.
   (click to listen)

'If she had had a long, thick braid of hair, the Raven would have recognized her

from afar.'



- 3. Situation: The phone is out of order, so we can not work properly, you say:
- У Якби телефон працював, то все було б набагато простіше. (click to listen)

'If the phone worked, everything would be simpler.'



# Polish / Polski

## Conditional mood in Polish language

 $\rightarrow$  3<sup>rd</sup> person *I*-participle [-l(m)/-la(f)/-lo(n)/-li (m. personal gender)/-ly (every other gender, pl.). The use of -li or -ly depends on whether there is a male in the group; if there is, we use -li.] + after these endings you have to add the particle -by in appropriate form [-bym(ja)/ -bys(ty)/ -by(on, ona)/ -bysmy(my)/ byście(wy)/ -by(oni)].

The marker of the conditional mood is the suffix **-by** 'would':

It can be attached to the verb or to the subordinator (in the subordinate clause).

There are two conditional moods in Polish:

 Conditional I. (present conditional) and Conditional II. (past conditional). The Conditional II. is almost absent in temporary Polish, it appears mainly in literary language.

Conditional I: past participle + -by

-by is attached to the verb or precedes the verb main clause:

(napisałbym, napisałbyś..., or: bym napisał,

byś napisał...)

-by is attached to the subordinator subordinate clause:

(gdybym napisał, gdybyś napisał...)

Conditional II: auxiliary "byl/byla" + past participle + -by main clause:

-by is attached to the auxiliary or precedes the

auxiliary

(byłbym napisał/byłabym napisała or: bym był

napisał/bym była napisała)

subordinate clause: -by is attached to the subordinator

(gdybym był napisał/gdybym była napisała)

Polańska, Irena. "The mood", Expressing Condition in English and in Polish, Jagiellonian, University Press. 2006. pp. 19-36

- 1. Situation: When you see that your friend has already cleaned the whole apartment, you say:
- Czemu nie mówiłeś? Byłbym Ci pomógł. (click to listen)

'Why did not you ask me? I would have helped.'



- 2. Situation: It is raining outside, so you can't play football, you say:
- Figure 6 Gdyby nie padał deszcz, pograłbym w piłkę na dworze. (click to listen) 'If it wasn't raining, I would play football outside.'



- 3. Situation: The garden is muddy that's why you can't play football, you say:
- ➤ Gdyby wczoraj cały dzień nie padał deszcz, teraz pogralibyśmy w piłkę na dworze. (click to listen)

'If it hadn't been raining all day yesterday, we would be playing football outside.'



Slovak / Slovenský

### **Coditional mood in Slovak**

Conditional in present tense:

verb in past tense + by + auxiliary verb

In present tense with subject:

subject + by + auxiliary + verb in past tense

<u>(click to listen)</u>

past tense of byt' + by + auxiliary verb

- + past tense of main verb
- In past tense with subject :

past tense of byt' + by + auxiliary verb

+ past tense of main verb

(click to listen)

Person Singular Plural

1. ja by som nosil (m.), ja by som nosila (f.) my by sme nosili

2. ty by si nosil (m.), ty by si nosila (f.) vy by ste nosili

3. on by nosil (m.), ona by nosila (f.), ono by nosilo (n.) oni by nosili

Let ´s have a look on an example conjugation of the verb <b>pit</b> ' - to drink.		
Person	Singular	Plural
1.	ja by som bol pil (m.), ja by som bola pila (f.)	my by sme boli pili
2.	ty by si bol pil (m.), ty by si bola pila (f.)	vy by ste boli pili
3.	on by bol pil (m.), ona by bola pila (f.), ono by bolo pilo (n.)	oni by boli pili

**Keby** = it is the conditional 'if'  $\rightarrow$  the particle is included in the conjunction, while the personal ending is written separately.

Brandon, et al. "Slovak Conditionals." CoLanguage, www.colanguage.com/slovak-conditionals.

- 1. Situation: You didn't study enough, so you got a bad grade, you say:
- > male: Keby som vedel viac o učive, mohol som dostať lepšiu známku.
- > female: Keby som vedela viac o učive, mohla som dostať lepšiu známku.

(click to listen)



## Conclusion

- In the Slovak and Polish language past conditional appears very rarely, only in literary texts or used by the older generation, so there is only one type of conditional in contemporary spoken language.
- In Slovak, Ukrainian and Polish language the conditional is formed similarly the verb is always in past tense consequently, these sentences have ambiguous interpretation.
- The context reveals whether the conditional sentence refers to the present, past, or future, therefore, the mixed conditional sentences can be interpreted differently.
- In contrast to these context-dependent sentences, temporal structure of the conditional sentence is indicated morphologically we know whether the sentence refers to the past, future, present in English, Hungarian and Romani language.

## Works Cited

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## Köszönjük szépen Szilágyi Okszánának, Daróczi Lajosnak és Juhász Tamásnak a segítségét!

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# Thank you for your attention!