7.3 Conditional Tenses: 30-minute Pack

about 30 minutes

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Cliff-Top Path

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Wednesday 9th September

If the tide comes in quickly, the cliff path becomes dangerous within minutes. Mr Kalu, our geography teacher, reminded us of this fact before we set off, and I could see why: the sea already looked restless against the rocks below.

'If we leave now, we will reach the headland before the weather closes in,' he said, checking his watch. Priya wasn't so sure. 'If I were in charge, I would wait for the ranger's forecast first,' she muttered to me, pulling her hood up against the wind.

Halfway along the path, the wind grew fiercer than any of us expected. If the ranger had warned us earlier, we would have taken the inland route instead, and none of us would have got quite so soaked. Still, nobody panicked. If you keep calm on an exposed path like this one, you generally make better decisions, Mr Kalu explained afterwards, and I think he was right.

By the time we reached the shelter at the headland, the rain had eased. 'If we had turned back at the first warning sign,' Priya said, half laughing, half relieved, 'we would have missed this view completely.' She had a point. Some risks, taken sensibly, turn out to be worth it.

1 Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets, to make a third conditional sentence.

(a) If the ranger ___ (warn) us earlier, we would have taken the inland route. **(1)**

(b) We would have missed the view if we ___ (turn) back at the first sign. **(1)**

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(c) If Priya ___ (not/pack) a spare jumper, she would have been much colder. **(1)**

(d) The class would have arrived late if the coach ___ (break) down. **(1)**

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2 Each sentence below has a conditional tense error, judged by the rules of formal Standard English. Identify the error and rewrite the sentence correctly.

(a) If it will rain tomorrow, we will stay indoors. **(2)**

(b) If I was you, I would take a coat. **(2)**

(c) If we would have known about the storm, we would have left earlier. **(2)**

(d) The path is dangerous if the tide will come in quickly. **(2)**

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3 Write a short diary entry or piece of advice (approximately 80-110 words) about a decision made when the weather turned bad on a trip or walk. Your writing must include: at least one first conditional sentence, one second conditional sentence and one third conditional sentence. Underline each of these three sentences in your answer.

(10)

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4 Underline the if-clause (the conditional clause) in each sentence.

(a) If we leave now, we will reach the headland before the weather closes in. **(1)**

(b) If I were in charge, I would wait for the ranger's forecast first. **(1)**

(c) If the ranger had warned us earlier, we would have taken the inland route instead. **(1)**

(d) If we had turned back at the first warning sign, we would have missed this view completely. **(1)**

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5 Which sentence is a zero conditional sentence?

- ☐ A) If it rains tomorrow, we will cancel the trip.
- ☐ B) If water reaches 100 degrees Celsius, it boils.
- ☐ C) If I had more time, I would learn to sail.
- ☐ D) If she had trained harder, she would have won the race.

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6 Sort the sentences in the word bank into the correct column below, to show which conditional tense each one uses.

Word bank:

1. If metal is heated, it expands.
2. If we practise every day, we will improve quickly.
3. If I won the lottery, I would travel the world.
4. If she had left earlier, she would have caught the train.
5. If plants do not get sunlight, they die.
6. If the bell rings, the lesson will end.
7. If he were taller, he could reach the shelf.
8. If we had studied harder, we would have passed the test.

Zero conditional	First conditional	Second conditional	Third conditional

(8)

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7 Look at Priya's line: 'If I were in charge, I would wait for the ranger's forecast first.' Explain the effect of the second conditional here, referring to how sure or certain her statement sounds.

(2)

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8 Which sentence correctly forms a first conditional sentence?

- ☐ A) If it rain tomorrow, we will stay inside.
- ☐ B) If it rains tomorrow, we will stay inside.
- ☐ C) If it rains tomorrow, we would stay inside.
- ☐ D) If it will rain tomorrow, we stay inside.

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Mark scheme · 7.3 Conditional Tenses: 30-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) had warned cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **had warned**

(b) had turned cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **had turned**

(c) had not packed cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **had not packed**

(d) had broken cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **had broken**

Question 2

(a) identifies that 'will' should not be used inside the if-clause of a first conditional — **B1**

(a) If it rains tomorrow, we will stay indoors. cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **If it rains tomorrow, we will stay indoors.**

(b) identifies that formal Standard English uses the subjunctive 'were' rather than 'was' after 'If I' in a hypothetical second conditional — **B1**

(b) If I were you, I would take a coat. cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **If I were you, I would take a coat.**

(c) identifies that 'would have known' should not be used inside the if-clause of a third conditional — **B1**

(c) If we had known about the storm, we would have left earlier. cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **If we had known about the storm, we would have left earlier.**

(d) identifies that 'will' should not be used inside the if-clause of a zero conditional — **B1**

(d) The path is dangerous if the tide comes in quickly. cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **The path is dangerous if the tide comes in quickly.**

Question 3

AO5: Content and organisation (AO5)

Level 1 Simple description of the decision or the bad weather; little sense of a consistent voice or organisation. — **1-2**

Level 2 Some relevant, engaged description of the decision made; an attempt at a consistent diary or advice voice; ideas are mostly sequenced clearly. — **3-4**

Level 3 Clear, engaging and convincing description of the decision in a consistent, well-judged voice; well organised with a genuine sense of the writer's thinking and reactions. — **5-6**

AO6: Technical accuracy (conditional tenses) (AO6)

Level 1 Limited accuracy; the three required conditional sentences (first, second, third) are mostly missing or used incorrectly. — **1**

Level 2 Most of the three required conditional sentences are present and mostly accurate, with occasional errors. — **2-3**

Level 3 All three required conditional sentences are present, clearly marked and used accurately, alongside a controlled range of other sentence forms. — **4**

Indicative content:

- Writing uses first person and an appropriate, consistent time reference throughout
- A first conditional sentence (if + present simple, will + base verb) makes a real prediction about the future
- A second conditional sentence (if + past simple or were, would + base verb) imagines a present or future situation that is not true
- A third conditional sentence (if + past perfect, would have + past participle) reflects on a past situation that did not happen
- Conditional sentences are clearly underlined and correctly formed
- Clear sense of the writer's decision-making and reflection, appropriate to a diary or advice register

Question 4

(a) If we leave now underlined cao — **B1**

(a) Answer: **If we leave now**

(b) If I were in charge underlined cao — **B1**

(b) Answer: **If I were in charge**

(c) If the ranger had warned us earlier underlined cao — **B1**

(c) Answer: **If the ranger had warned us earlier**

(d) If we had turned back at the first warning sign underlined cao — **B1**

(d) Answer: **If we had turned back at the first warning sign**

Question 5

B — **B1**

Answer: **B**

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Question 6

1 (If metal is heated, it expands) sorted under zero conditional cao	**B1**
5 (If plants do not get sunlight, they die) sorted under zero conditional cao	**B1**
2 (If we practise every day, we will improve quickly) sorted under first conditional cao	**B1**
6 (If the bell rings, the lesson will end) sorted under first conditional cao	**B1**
3 (If I won the lottery, I would travel the world) sorted under second conditional cao	**B1**
7 (If he were taller, he could reach the shelf) sorted under second conditional cao	**B1**
4 (If she had left earlier, she would have caught the train) sorted under third conditional cao	**B1**
8 (If we had studied harder, we would have passed the test) sorted under third conditional cao	**B1**

Answer: **Zero conditional: 1, 5. First conditional: 2, 6. Second conditional: 3, 7. Third conditional: 4, 8.**

Question 7

identifies that the second conditional presents a hypothetical, unreal situation, since Priya is not actually in charge	**B1**
links this to effect, e.g. the hypothetical distance makes her disagreement sound tentative or polite rather than a direct criticism of Mr Kalu's decision (oe)	**B1**

Answer: **The second conditional shows that Priya is imagining a situation that is not real, since she is not actually in charge; this hypothetical distance makes her disagreement sound tentative and polite, softening what could otherwise seem like a direct criticism of Mr Kalu's decision.**

Question 8

B	**B1**

Answer: **B**

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