7.3 Conditional Tenses: Test Pack

about 15 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 Look at each sentence taken from the source text. Identify whether it is a zero, first, second or third conditional sentence.

(a) 'If the tide comes in quickly, the cliff path becomes dangerous within minutes.' **(1)**

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

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

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

(e) 'If you keep calm on an exposed path like this one, you generally make better decisions.' **(1)**

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2 Combine each pair of sentences into one sentence, using the conditional type named and a suitable if-clause.

(a) The tide might come in. Then the path becomes dangerous. (first conditional) **(2)**

(b) Priya did not check the forecast. She got soaked in the rain. (third conditional) **(2)**

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3 Write two sentences of your own about a decision made during a walk, trip or outdoor activity. Sentence 1 must use the third conditional. Sentence 2 must use the zero conditional.

(4)

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4 Complete each sentence with the correct present simple form of the verb in brackets, to make a zero conditional sentence.

(a) If water freezes, it ___ (turn) into ice. **(1)**

(b) If you drop a glass, it usually ___ (break). **(1)**

(c) If plants ___ (not/get) enough water, they wilt. **(1)**

(d) Ice ___ (melt) if the temperature rises above zero. **(1)**

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Mark scheme · 7.3 Conditional Tenses: Test Pack

Question 1

(a) zero conditional cao	**B1**
(a) Answer: **zero conditional**	
(b) first conditional cao	**B1**
(b) Answer: **first conditional**	
(c) second conditional cao	**B1**
(c) Answer: **second conditional**	
(d) third conditional cao	**B1**
(d) Answer: **third conditional**	
(e) zero conditional cao	**B1**
(e) Answer: **zero conditional**	

Question 2

(a) if-clause correctly formed with present simple (e.g. If the tide comes in)	**B1**
(a) main clause correctly formed with will + base verb (e.g. the path will become dangerous), cao	**B1**
(a) Answer: **If the tide comes in, the path will become dangerous.**	
(b) if-clause correctly formed with past perfect (e.g. If Priya had checked the forecast)	**B1**
(b) main clause correctly formed with would not have + past participle (e.g. she would not have got soaked in the rain), cao	**B1**
(b) Answer: **If Priya had checked the forecast, she would not have got soaked in the rain.**	

Question 3

sentence 1 uses the third conditional tense correctly (if + past perfect, would have + past participle) (oe)	**B1**
sentence 1 is grammatically accurate and makes sense as an unreal past situation (cao)	**B1**
sentence 2 uses the zero conditional tense correctly (if + present simple, present simple) (oe)	**B1**
sentence 2 is grammatically accurate and expresses a general truth or habitual result (cao)	**B1**
Answer: **e.g. If we had checked the map earlier, we would have taken the shorter path. If you wear the right boots, you rarely slip on a muddy trail.**	

Question 4

(a) turns cao	**B1**
(a) Answer: **turns**	
(b) breaks cao	**B1**
(b) Answer: **breaks**	
(c) do not get cao	**B1**
(c) Answer: **do not get**	
(d) melts cao	**B1**
(d) Answer: **melts**	

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