

Latin Conditional Clauses:

"If-clauses" are **conditional clauses** when the word *if* means "under the *condition* that." There are two major types of conditional structures: 1. **factual** and 2. **contrafactual (contrary to fact)**.

1. **Factual** structures are in the **indicative mood**, whatever the tense:

1. If Marcus loves Julia, she loves him.	Sī Marcus Iūliam amat , ea eum amat .	Present factual: present indicative + present indicative
2. If Marcus [at one time] loved Julia, [then] she [at one time] loved him.	Sī Marcus Iūliam amāvit , ea eum amāvit .	Past factual: perfect / imperfect indicative + perfect / imperfect indicative
3. If Marcus loves Julia ["someday in the future loves her"], she will love him.	Sī Marcus Iūliam amāverit , ea eum amābit .	Future more vivid: future / future perfect indicative + future / future perfect indicative

2. Structures **uncertain as to fact, or contrary to fact** are in the **subjunctive mood**, whatever the tense. *Note that in these examples the second tense is the same as the first tense: two present verbs, two imperfect verbs, or two past perfect (pluperfect) verbs.*

4. If Marcus should [perhaps ever some day] love Julia, she would love him.	Sī Marcus Iūliam amet , ea eum amet .	Future less vivid (should-would): present subjunctive + present subjunctive
5. If Marcus loved Julia [but he doesn't love her now], she would love him [but she doesn't love him now].	Sī Marcus Iūliam amāret , ea eum amāret .	Present contrary to fact: imperfect subjunctive + imperfect subjunctive
6. If Marcus had loved Julia [but he didn't love her then], she would have loved him [but she didn't].	Sī Marcus Iūliam amāvisset , ea eum amāvisset .	Past contrary to fact: past perfect subjunctive + past perfect subjunctive

It is possible to have a mixing of tenses: If you had found me sooner, I would be free now.

Sī mē citius **invēnissēs**, liber nunc **essem**.