**Third conditionals and mixed conditionals**  
  
Conditionals are sentences with two clauses – an ‘if clause and a main clause – that are closely related. Conditional sentences are often divided into different types.  
  
**Third conditional**

**Third conditional**sentences describe the past. They describe something that **didn’t happen**.

* *If I’d studied harder at school I would have gone to university.*

He didn’t study very hard and he didn’t go to university.

* *We wouldn’t have got lost if you hadn’t given me the wrong directions.*

She wasn't given the correct directions and she didn't find her way.

* *She might have finished the exam if she’d had more time.*

She didn't finish the exam and she didn't have more time.  
  
In third conditional sentences, the structure is usually **if + past perfect and would + perfect infinitive (e.g. have done)**. It’s not important which clause comes first.  
  
Notice that other modal verbs can be used instead of ‘*would*’ (e.g. *‘could’, ‘might’ ‘may’*)  
  
**Mixed conditionals**  
  
In **mixed conditional** sentences the time in the ‘if’ clause is not the same as the time in the main clause. There can be various combinations.

* *If he’d gone to university he might have a better job.*

He didn’t go to university (past)  
He doesn’t have a very good job. (present)  
This sentence shows the present consequences of a past action.

* *If I’d won the competition I’d be going to Florida next week.*

She didn’t win the competition (past)  
She isn’t going to Florida (future)  
This sentence shows the future consequences of a past action.*​*