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**Lesson Plan: Teaching Third Conditional Tense**

lesson plans, handouts, grammar, Third Conditionals, vocabulary, art, free time, language reception (reading), language production (speaking, writing), B2

**Level: Intermediate**

**Objective:** By the end of the lesson, students will be able to form and use the third conditional tense to discuss past unreal situations and their hypothetical outcomes. Students will practice reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills.

**Feel free to adapt and modify these activities according to the needs and proficiency level of your EFL class.**

**Materials:**

Whiteboard and markers

Handouts with practice exercises

Short reading passage

Sentence prompts for speaking activity

Writing prompts for writing activity

Handouts (see the end of the document)

**Warm-up (10 minutes):**

Begin with a discussion about regrets. For example, "Have you ever regretted a decision you made?"

Write a couple of third conditional sentences on the board and ask students to identify the structure and tense used.

**Introduction (10 minutes):**

Present the structure of the third conditional tense:

If + past perfect (had + past participle), would have + past participle.

For negative sentences, use "wouldn't have" instead of "would have."

Provide examples on the board and explain that the third conditional is used to talk about past events that did not happen and their imagined outcomes.

**Reading Activity (15 minutes):**

Distribute a short reading passage containing examples of third conditional sentences.

Have students read the passage individually and underline or highlight the third conditional sentences.

Discuss the content of the passage as a class and confirm the examples of the third conditional.

**Speaking Activity (20 minutes):**

Divide the class into pairs or small groups.

Provide each group with sentence prompts related to hypothetical past situations. For example:

If you had studied harder for the last test, what would have happened?

If you had traveled to a different country last year, where would you have gone?

Each group discusses the prompts, using the third conditional structure.

**Writing Activity (20 minutes):**

Give students writing prompts related to past decisions and their imagined outcomes. For example:

Write about a decision you regret and what would have happened if you had chosen differently.

Describe a situation where you wish you had acted differently and how it would have affected the outcome.

Students write short paragraphs or essays using the third conditional tense.

**There are samples of handout at the end of the document**

**Wrap-up (5 minutes):**

Summarize the key points of the lesson and check if students understand the third conditional tense and its usage.

Encourage students to use the third conditional structure in their discussions and writing.

Homework (Optional):

Assign homework exercises that provide further practice with forming and using the third conditional tense in various contexts.

**Assessment:**

Observe students' participation in discussions, accuracy in completing exercises, and the quality of their writing.

**Extension Activities:**

Create a role-play activity where students act out hypothetical conversations using the third conditional.

**Handouts**

**Reading passage**

**Text: Missed Opportunity B2**

Imagine you had gone to that art exhibition last month. You would have been amazed by the intricate paintings and sculptures on display. The event took place in a renowned gallery, and art enthusiasts from around the world attended. If you had taken the chance to attend, your perspective on contemporary art might have broadened.

Unfortunately, you didn't hear about the exhibition in time. If you had seen the announcement earlier, you would have marked the date on your calendar. You could have spent hours admiring the creativity of the artists and interacting with fellow art lovers. What a missed opportunity it was!

If you had known about the exhibition, you might have invited your friends to join you. It could have been a memorable outing, full of discussions about each artwork's meaning and inspiration. You would have cherished the experience and shared it with others.

Reflecting on it now, you realize how different things would have been if you had been there. The event was a unique opportunity to connect with the art world, and you regret not attending.

Questions for Discussion:

1.What would you have seen if you had gone to the art exhibition?

2.How might your perspective on contemporary art have changed if you had attended?

3.What would you have done if you had heard about the exhibition earlier?

4.How could the experience have been different if you had invited your friends?

Feel free to use this text for reading, comprehension, and discussion activities in your lesson on third conditional tenses. You can also adapt the questions to prompt further discussions and reflections among your students.

**Sample of Role-Play Scenarios**

These scenarios are designed to help students practice using the third conditional structure in hypothetical conversations.

Scenario 1: The Missed Flight

Characters:

Alex (Student)

Sarah (Airport Employee)

Scenario:

Alex missed their flight to an important business meeting. In this role-play, Alex goes to the airline's customer service desk to inquire about what could have been done differently and whether there are any alternatives.

Conversation:

Alex: (Approaches the desk) Excuse me, I missed my flight to New York. If I had woken up earlier, I would have been on time. Is there another flight today?

Sarah: (In the role of the airport employee) I'm sorry, but the last flight to New York for today has already departed. If you had arrived earlier, you could have caught it.

Scenario 2: The Forgotten Anniversary

Characters:

Lisa (Wife)

Tom (Husband)

Scenario:

Tom forgot their wedding anniversary, and Lisa is upset. In this role-play, Tom tries to make amends by expressing what he wishes he had done differently.

Conversation:

Tom: (Apologizing) Lisa, I'm really sorry I forgot our anniversary. If I had marked it on the calendar, I would have remembered. Can we still celebrate?

Lisa: (Upset) It's not the same now, but I appreciate the apology.

Scenario 3: The Lost Wallet

Characters:

Emily (Person who lost the wallet)

John (Good Samaritan who found the wallet)

Scenario:

Emily lost her wallet at the park. John found it and is returning it to her. In this role-play, they discuss the situation and the possibilities of what could have happened if the wallet had not been found.

Conversation:

Emily: (Relieved) Thank you so much for finding my wallet. If you hadn't found it, I would have been in big trouble.

John: (Friendly) You are welcome. It's lucky I spotted it on the ground. If I hadn't, you might have lost all your important cards and money.

Scenario 4: The Broken Promise

Characters:

Mike (Friend)

Sarah (Friend)

Scenario:

Mike had promised to help Sarah move to her new apartment, but he didn't show up. Sarah is upset, and in this role-play, they discuss what could have happened if Mike had kept his promise.

Conversation:

Sarah: (Frustrated) Mike, you promised to help me move yesterday, but you didn't come. If you had kept your promise, we would have finished much faster.

Mike: (Apologetic) I know, I'm really sorry. If I hadn't overslept, I would have been there on time.

Scenario 5: The Lost Ticket

Characters:

Emily (Concertgoer)

Ticket Salesperson

Scenario:

Emily lost her concert ticket, and now she can't get into the concert. In this role-play, she tries to find out if there's any way she could still attend the concert.

Conversation:

Emily: (Worried) I lost my ticket to the concert tonight. If I hadn't been so careless, I would have it with me. Is there anything I can do?

Ticket Salesperson: (Sympathetic) I'm sorry, but without your ticket, we can't let you in. If you had kept it safe, you could have enjoyed the concert.

Scenario 6: The Missed Bus

Characters:

Mark (Passenger)

Bus Driver

Scenario:

Mark missed his bus to an important meeting. In this role-play, he approaches the bus driver to ask if there's any way he can still catch the meeting.

Conversation:

Mark: (Panicked) I can't believe I missed my bus! If I hadn't hit snooze on my alarm, I would have been on time. Can you please help me?

Bus Driver: (Understanding) I'm sorry, but the bus has already left. If you had arrived earlier, you would have caught it. Maybe you can take a taxi to the meeting.

**Samples Worksheets**

Worksheet 1: Third Conditional - Mixed Sentences

Instructions: Complete the following sentences using the third conditional structure. Use both affirmative and negative forms as appropriate.

1.If I (study) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ harder, I (get) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ better grades.

2.If she (not forget) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her umbrella, she (not get) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ wet.

3.If they (invite) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me to the party, I (go) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with them.

4.If he (not eat) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so much, he (not feel) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ sick.

5.If we (have) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more time, we (visit) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the museum.

6.If you (not break) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the vase, you (not have to) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ buy a new one.

7.If she (not lose) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her keys, she (not need to) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ call a locksmith.

8.If he (not arrive) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ late, he (meet) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the manager.

9.If they (not miss) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the train, they (arrive) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on time.

10.If we (not take) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the wrong turn, we (find) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the restaurant.

Worksheet 2: Third Conditional - Mixed Sentences (Interrogative)

Instructions: Transform the following affirmative sentences into interrogative sentences using the third conditional structure.

1.They would have won the game if they (practice) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more.

2.She would have passed the exam if she (study) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ harder.

3.We would have had a great vacation if it (not rain) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ every day.

4.He would have bought the car if it (not be) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so expensive.

5.She would have gone to the party if she (receive) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ an invitation.

6.They would have caught the train if they (not miss) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it.

7.I would have joined the club if they (invite) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me.

8.He would have fixed the computer if he (know) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ how.

9.They would have visited the museum if it (not close) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ early.

10.She would have been on time if she (not oversleep) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Worksheet 3: Third Conditional - Mixed Sentences (Negative)

Instructions: Transform the following affirmative sentences into negative sentences using the third conditional structure.

1.If she (win) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the lottery, she would have bought a new car.

2.If they (not miss) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the bus, they would have arrived early.

3.If he (remember) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to bring his ID, he would have entered the club.

4.If it (not snow) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ last winter, we would have gone skiing.

5.If they (invite) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us to the wedding, we would have attended.

6.If she (not lose) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her passport, she would have traveled abroad.

7.If he (not drop) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ his phone, it would have still worked.

8.If we (know) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the answer, we would have won the quiz.

9.If she (not forget) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her anniversary, they would have celebrated.

10.If they (not eat) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ so much, they would have had room for dessert.

These worksheets provide practice in forming third conditional sentences in various forms—affirmative, negative, and interrogative. They can be used in the classroom or as homework assignments to reinforce understanding and usage of this grammar structure.

**Feel free to adapt and modify these activities according to the needs and proficiency level of your EFL class.**