

أدوات الشرط

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إذا واجه أسوار السكوت

is a conditional particle (one of many in Arabic) used to present possible situations that may or may not take place in the future. The conditional sentence consists of two clauses: **جملة الشرط** headed by a conditional particle and followed by a past tense, and **جملة الجواب** with a verb that comes in past or present tense. Examples:

جملة الشرط
إذا كتبت لي أكتب لك.

إذا كتبت لي كتبت لك.

جملة الجواب

The order of the two clauses can be reversed:

سأذهب إلى البحر إذا أنهيت عملي.
لا تسافر إذا أمطرت اليوم.

The **جواب** typically start with the particle **فـ** if it starts with one of the following:

لن، سوف، س، لا، قد، ليس

إذا أمطرت اليوم فسأرحل غداً.

The conditional sentence can be used as well in negative clause, **لم** should be used in this case:

إذا لم تقرأ الشعر الحر فلن تعرف الثقافة العربية الحديثة.

OTHER CONDITIONAL PARTICLES

إِنْ

Conditional situations can also be expressed by **إِنْ**, familiar to learners of Arabic through the expression **إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ**. It is mostly employed in literary and religious texts. Verbs used in **إِنْ** conditional sentences can be past, present, or jussive.

إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ، أَدْرُسُ الشَّعْرَ الْعَرَبِيَّ فِي الْفَصْلِ الْقَادِمِ.

لَوْ

This particle introduces improbable hypotheses, and it uses the past tense in both of its clauses. In addition, **جَمَلَةُ الْجَوَابِ** must start with the particle **لَوْ**.

لَوْ كُنْتُ حَاكِمًا لَسَاعَدْتُ الْفُقَرَاءَ.

Negative situations can be expressed through the use of **لَوْ مَا** and **لَوْ لَا**. These cases denote possible past (already occurred) situations.

لَوْ لَا أَوْلَادِي مَا أَنْهَيْتُ دِرَاسَتِي.

لَوْ مَا الْحَرِّ، مَا كَثَرَ النَّخِيلُ فِي الْعِرَاقِ.

لَوْ لَا الْكِتَابَةَ لَضَاعَ أَكْثَرُ الْعِلْمِ وَالتَّارِيخِ.

Now let's practice some conditional sentences. Add a correct conditional particle to the following sentences:

١- _____ عَرَفَكَ جَيِّدًا أَحَبَكَ.

٢- _____ الْكِتَابَةَ لَضَاعَ أَكْثَرُ الْعِلْمِ وَالتَّارِيخِ الْقَدِيمِ.

٣- _____ عَشْتُ الْفَ سَنَةً لَعَمَلْتُ مِنْ أَجْلِ السَّلَامِ فِي الْعَالَمِ.

POEMS FROM IRAQ INTERMEDIATE

٣- _____ أكلت الرز العراقي فلن تأكل غيره.

٤- _____ انتصر العلم على الجهل لتغير تاريخ البشرية.

٥- سوف تتعب بسرعة، ----- لم تأكل جيداً.

Note: There are other conditional expressions in Arabic. A group of nouns can be formed by adding question words or relative pronouns with the particle ما, such as أينما، حيثما، ممّا، كيفما، حينما
You may see more of these conditionals as you advance your Arabic studies. Try to find them on your own during your free reading practice.