7A Unintended consequences

Activity type: Sentence matching

Aim: To focus on broader possibilities with real-conditional sentences

Language: Conditional sentences – Use any time after 7.2.

Preparation: Make enough copies of the worksheet to allow one sentence strip for each learner. Cut up the strips. (Note that each strip has two parts: the beginning of an *if*-clause and the beginning of a consequence or result clause.)

Time: 15 minutes

1   Give one strip to each learner. Learners write one complete real-conditional sentence using the two prompts they have on their strip. They then tear their sentence into two parts down the zigzag line.

2   Learners mingle to find as many meaningful combinations as possible for their *if*-clause and their result clause. Encourage learners to find explanations/reasons for why an apparently 'wrong' combination might be possible or allowable.

Extension

Learners each receive a result clause written by another learner and try to come up with a plausible *if*-clause to go with it. Gather whole-class feedback.

If I	I'll
If my boss	I might
If you	I'll
If my mother	she'll
If everybody	the world might
If it	I'll
If you	you should
If I	will you
If you want to	you should
If < *name*: _____ >	he/she'll
If the president / prime minister	we'll
If you like	you'll