



Mixed Conditonals Around the World

Hi everyone!

We are group number 10 - Targeting the Verb Phrase. We invite you to join us on a trip around the world.

Our trip - presentation series - will have different stops and we will "talk" about many languages.

It is worth joining us because at the end of the last trip - presentation - you will receive a *Kahoot!* code and you will have the chance to play for a prize.

We hope you accept our invitation! Enjoy the tour!

Your first tour guide is *Mónika Püski* and the first stop is *Hungary*.



Hungary / Magyarország

Hungarian vs. Romani (Lovari dialect)

In this part of our presentation series, we are going to focus on two languages (spoken in the territory of Hungary):

- **Hungarian** (the official language) and **Gypsy** (a minority language)
- **Lovari** is a Romani dialect spoken in Hungary, Poland, the Ukraine, Slovakia and Austria. Lovari shows strong influences of Hungarian.
- According to Kiefer (2010), Lovari has completely reinterpreted the old tense system under the influence of Hungarian, the present system shows the Hungarian pattern (Kiefer 2010:159).

Hungarian / Magyar

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Before we get started...

What to know about Hungarian conditionals in general:

- Hungarian uses the same tense in both of the clauses (main and subordinate).
- Sentences are formed around *'if'* that is *'ha'* in Hungarian.
 - 'I would go'- as present
 - 'I would have gone'- as past

• Now, we can start...



Putting the verbs into the conditional

As we put both of the main verbs in both of the clauses on to case

- Hu: Elmennék sétálni ha sütne a nap.
- Eng: *I would go for a walk if the sun would shine.- incorrect
I would go for a walk if the sun shined.

Letter of conjugation when attaching the suffix

mond valamit – he says something

mondani valamit- to say something

mondana valamit- ha would say something

➤ sometimes you may also need **a link vowel** between this and the stem

The present



- We differentiate two forms (and between front and back vowels)

Definite

Person	Front	Back
Én	-ném	-nám
Te	-néd	-nád
Ő	-né	-ná
Mi	-nénk	-nánk
Ti	-nétek	-nátok
Ők	-nék	-nák

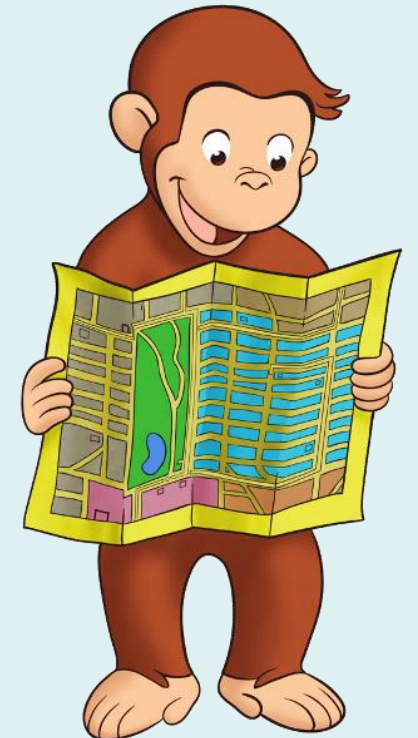
Indefinite

Person	Front	Back
Én	-nék	-nék
Te	-nél	-nál
Ő	-ne	-na
Mi	-nénk	-nánk
Ti	-nétek	-nátok
Ők	-nének	-nának
Én/ Téged	-nélek	-nálak

- But what about '**-nék**'? →

What is about '-nék' is...

- It indicates 1st person singular (*én*) indefinite as well as 3rd person plural (*ők*) definite.
 - This can cause confusion.
- What is the solution than?
 - The usage of object or subject
 - **Én** szeretnék- **I** would like
 - **Ők** szeretnék **azt**- **They** would like **that**



The past



- To indicate past conditional we use the version '**volna**' of the verb '**lenni**' (to be).
- So the formation is:

the past tense of the verb and ,volna'

- Elmentem **volna** (én) oda- I **would have gone** there
- Elment **volna** (ő) oda- He **would have gone** there

Side note to the underlined words:

- The suffix of the verb indicates who did or would do the action according to the previous table.

And the future



- Hungarian does not have a particular conditional referring to the future.
- But how do we express it?
 - With the use of present conditional with time reference

Eng: If **you** invite **me**, **I** will go.

Hu: Ha **holnap** (**te**) (**engem**) meghív**nál**, elmenn**ék** (**én**).

Side note to the green suffixes:

- Here you can also observe how Hungarian puts both of the main verbs in to conditional in both of the clauses.

Some examples

- Past condition + present results

(1) **Ha elmentem volna (én) (akkor) a boltba, most lenne itthon étel.** [\(click to listen\)](#)

'If I had gone to the shop, we would have food at home.'

- Present condition+ past result

(2) **Ha nem kedvelnék (én) (most), nem kéretem volna bocsánatot (én) (akkor).**
[\(click to listen\)](#)

'If I did not like you, I wouldn't have asked for your forgiveness.'

- Past conditional

'If I had known, I would have told you.'

➤ **Ha tudtam volna, elmondom.** (*I tell*)

➤ **Ha tudtam volna, elmondtam volna.** (*I would have told*) [\(click to listen\)](#)

BUT

elmondom ≠ *elmondtam volna*

Let's see why... →



The reason

'If I had known, I would have told you.'

(3) a. Ha tudtam volna, elmondom.

b. Ha tudtam volna, elmondtam volna.

▪ The extended, full form of these sentences:

a. Ha tudtam volna (én/I) (*akkor/then*), elmondom (én/I) (most or *akkor/now or then*).

past reference + *present* or *past reference*

b. Ha tudtam volna (én) (*akkor/then*), elmondtam volna (én) (*akkor/then*).

past reference + *past reference*

➤ In Hungarian, the suffixes are also used to express time and person. Most of the time speakers can make inferences from the context. That is why most of the time no reference to time or place is used in Hungarian sentences.

➤ In (3a) the main clause can refer to the present or past, while in (3b) it can only refer to the past.

- Translation (3a.)

Ha tudtam volna, elmondom.

We're just talking about a case that had happened before and I am asking you why you didn't tell me about that and why are you denying to tell me the truth at the moment as well. Hence I think that you know about the truth relating to the case but actually you didn't.

Then you tell me "ha tudtam volna, elmondom."

- Translation (3b.)

Ha tudtam volna, elmondtam volna.

We are talking about a case that had happened before. I since then had some kind of shortage because I didn't know about a detail (related to a case that we are talking about). And I am arguing you because I am pretty sure that you had known about the truth. But you didn't that's why you didn't tell me anything about that at the time of the case.

So now you are telling me 'ha tudtam volna, megmondtam volna.'



Romani

Conditional Forms and Sentences in Romani

- Unlike English (but just like Hungarian 😊), in Romani speakers put the main verb into the conditional mood in both the main and the subordinate clause in a sentence:

How to put the verb into the conditional mood?

Present: Conjugate the verb in present tense+ *as* (*conditional-mood marker*)

Exception: 1SG: *stem+os*

Past: Conjugate the verb in past tense+ *as* (*conditional-mood marker*)

(1) **Te zhangl-om-as,** **phend-dom-as** **tuke.** [\(click to listen\)](#)

If know-PAST.1sg-COND, tell-PAST.1SG-COND you.DAT

'If I had known, I would have told you.'



Mixed Conditionals



Past condition+Present result:

(2) Situation: You did not go to the shop (in the past), therefore you do not have food at home now. You say:

➤ **Te gelom-as-tar ande bolta, avlas amen xaben.**

[\(click to listen\)](#)

if go.PAST.1SG-PART to shop, be.FUT-COND we.DAT food

'If I had gone to the shop, we would have food at home.'

Present condition+Past Result:

(3) Situation: You love the person whom you are talking to, therefore you asked for his/ her forgiveness (in the past).

➤ **Te chi kamos tut, chi maglom-as tutar ertisaripo**

[\(click to listen\)](#)

if no like.COND you.ACC not ask.PAST.1SG-CON from.you forgiveness

'If I did not like you, I wouldn't have asked for your forgiveness.'



An interesting difference:

Past conditionals: **only one grammatical form (unlike Hungarian):**

(4) **Te zhanglom-as, phendom-as-tar tuke.** ([click to listen](#))
if know.PAST.1SG-COND tell.PAST.1SG-COND-PART you.DAT
'If I had known, I would have told you.'

(5) * **Te zhanglom-as, phenav-tar tuke.**
if know.PAST.1SG-COND tell.1SG-PART you.DAT

(5) is *ungrammatical* in Romani, because the conditional mood marker is missing.

But its Hungarian counterpart (6) is grammatical.

(6) **Ha tudtam volna, el-mondom neked.** ([click to listen](#))
if know.PAST.1sg PAST.COND PART-tell.1SG you.DAT
'If I had known, I would have told you.'

Works cited

- The Hungarian conditional mood marker [HungarianReference.com _ Grammar _ Verbs _ Conditional_ would].html
- Kiefer, Ferenc (2010): Areal-typological aspects of word-formation, The case of aktionsart-formation in German, Hungarian, Slavic, Baltic, Romani and Yiddish in *Variation and Change* in Franz Rainer, Wolfgang U. Dressler, Dieter Kastovsky and Hans Christian Luschützky (eds.), *Morphology: Selected papers from the 13th International Morphology Meeting, Vienna, February 2008*, [*Current Issues in Linguistic Theory*310], pp. 129–148

Zurales najisaras tuke o zhutipe, Laci!

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Thank you for your attention!