

MOODS

(Part 1)

Elena Karpenko & Elena Pozharytska

MOOD

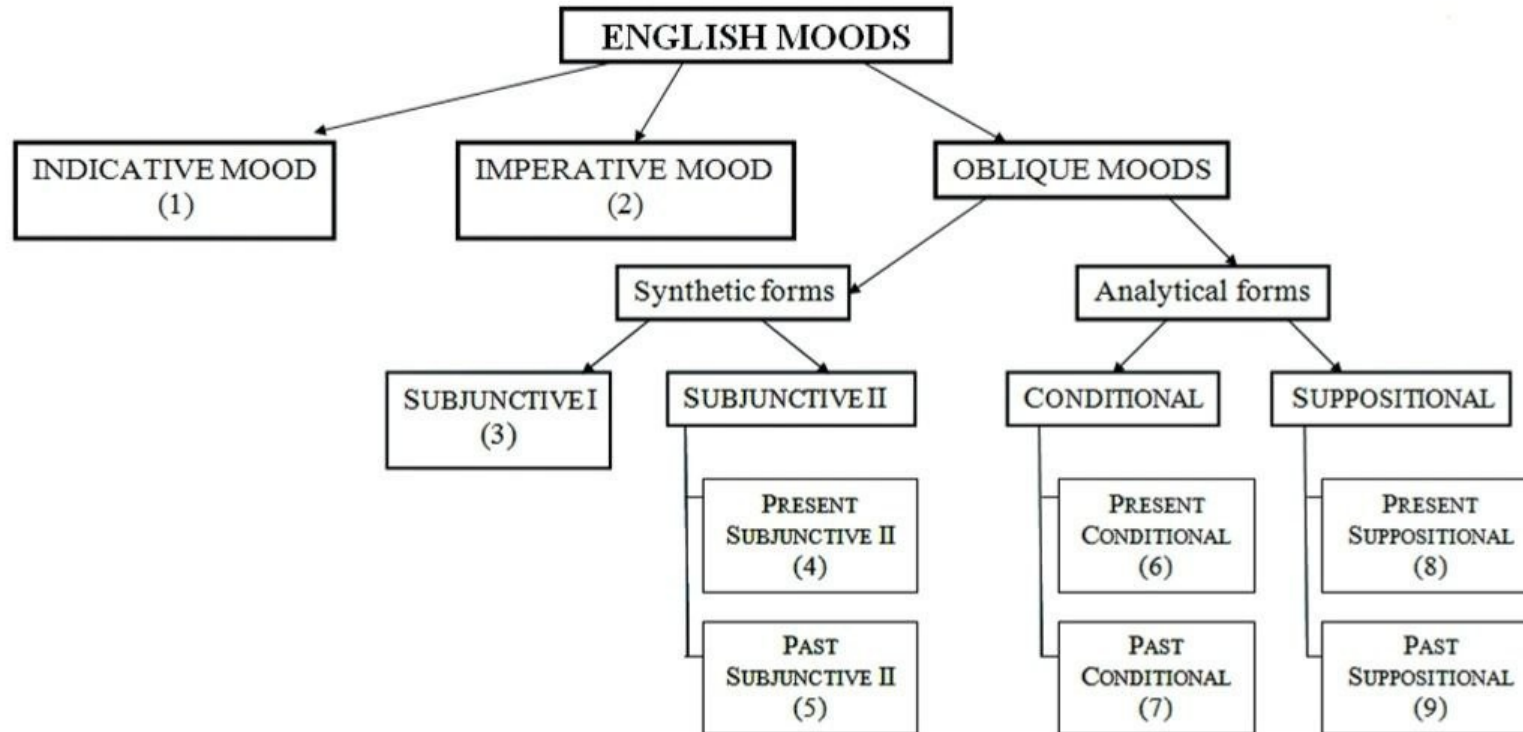
MOOD is a grammatical category which indicates **the speaker's attitude** towards the action expressed by the verb in terms of its relation to the speech situation. In other words, moods are forms of the verb which express modality.

3 MOODS

- THE INDICATIVE MOOD represents an action as a **real** fact, or as if it were real.
- THE IMPERATIVE MOOD expresses a **command** or **request**. The speaker urges a person to perform an action.
- THE OBLIQUE MOODS (the subjunctive, conditional or suppositional) are a set of moods representing something in the speaker's mind **not** as a real fact, but as a wish, desire, supposition, as something contradicting reality (a). The oblique moods can also express the speaker's emotional attitude to real facts (b)

MOODS IN MODERN ENGLISH

Moods in Modern English



SYNTHETIC FORMS OF OBLIQUE MOODS (1)

SUBJUNCTIVE I

- SUBJUNCTIVE I, or PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE, represents the action as **problematic** but not definitely unreal or contradicting to reality. It is also used to express a wish, suggestion, purpose, importance, urgency or desirability of the action.
- Formally, this mood looks like an infinitive without the particle 'to' and this form is preserved for all persons with all time references:
- God **save** the King!
- **May** the force **be** with you!

SYNTHETIC FORMS OF OBLIQUE MOODS (2)

SUBJUNCTIVE II

- SUBJUNCTIVE II, or PAST SUBJUNCTIVE, always represents the action as **unreal**.
- Its form looks like any of the past tense forms: **Subjunctive II Present** (the Past or Past Continuous Subjunctive) coincides in its form with Past Indefinite or Past Continuous; **Subjunctive II Past** (the Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous Subjunctive) – with Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous. In Subjunctive II Present, the form 'were' often operates for all persons, singular and plural:
- If I **were** King, I wouldn't hang them.
- **Had** you **done** it by now, you wouldn't be here.

SUBJUNCTIVE II PRESENT

- Subjunctive II Present, sharing the same form with Past Indefinite or Past Continuous, refers the action contradicting the reality to the present, showing it as **simultaneous** to the action in the context.
- I wish I **were** there (I consider it unfortunate that I am not there).
- I wished I **were** there (I considered it unfortunate that I was not there).

SUBJUNCTIVE II PAST

- Subjunctive II Past looks like Past Perfect or Past Perfect Continuous and points to the unreal action in the past, giving a reference to the action **prior** to those described in the immediate context.
- If only he **hadn't broken** the vase! (He had broken it, unfortunately).
- I wished he **hadn't broken** the vase.

ANALYTICAL FORMS OF OBLIQUE MOODS

- The analytical moods represent actions as **dependent unreality**, with the condition expressed or implied. There are two analytical moods in English:
 - 1) the conditional mood (its present and past forms);
 - 2) the suppositional mood (its present and past forms).

CONDITIONAL MOOD

- CONDITIONAL MOOD shows unreal actions, expressing a wish or desire, and is mainly used in the principal clause of unreal condition. Its forms look like those of Future-in-the-Past, where **Present Conditional** combines SHOULD / WOULD with the indefinite or continuous infinitive (like Future-Indefinite- or Future-Continuous-in-the-Past) and **Past Conditional** is made up by SHOULD / WOULD and the perfect or perfect continuous infinitive (like Future-Perfect- or Future Perfect-Continuous-in-the-Past).
- If I were a writer, I **should write** a detective story. → present conditional
- If she had sent a few pounds, it **would have been** more to the point. → past conditional
- But for the rain, I would have gone on foot. → past conditional

PRESENT CONDITIONAL

- Present Conditional shows an **unreal** action in the present or future which is **simultaneous** or **preceding** the action in the immediate context or subordinate clause.
- SHOULD /WOULD + Indefinite / Continuous Infinitive
- If Marion were an actress, she **would** rather **play** in tragedies.

PAST CONDITIONAL

- Past Conditional describes an **unreal** action in the past which is **prior** to that or those given in the immediate context or subordinate clause.
- SHOULD / WOULD + Perfect / Perfect Continuous Infinitive
- If Marion had chosen a career of an actress in her youth, she **would have played** in lots of tragedies by now.

CONDITIONAL vs SUBJUNCTIVE

- While the CONDITIONAL MOOD expresses **dependent unreality**, i.e. actions dependent on the information in the subordinate clause or provided in the immediate context, SUBJUNCTIVE II shows a state of things which **does not exist**.
- The conditional mood is employed in **principal** clauses, while Subjunctive II functions in **subordinate** clauses, mostly.
- Now Patrick **would be going** on a Caribbean cruise if he **had won** the lottery

SUPPOSITIONAL MOOD

- SUPPOSITIONAL MOOD represents the action as **problematic, but not necessarily contradicting reality**. It's formally represented by the use of SHOULD obligatory for all persons and combined with different forms of the infinitive. The indefinite or continuous infinitive here make up **Present Suppositional**, while **Past Suppositional** asks for the perfect or perfect continuous infinitive.
- **Should** you **need** any money, let me know.
- It's strange that he **should have judged** you so accurately.
- He withdrew his eyes lest she **should read** his thoughts.

PRESENT SUPPOSITIONAL

- Present Suppositional shows problematic actions in the present / future, **simultaneous** or **preceding** those in the immediate context.
- SHOULD + Indefinite / Continuous Infinitive
- **Should** you **come** to our city, we'll be most glad, Michael.
- It's strange that Julia **should be hopping** around the room.
- It was strange that Julia **should be hopping** around the room.

PAST SUPPOSITIONAL

- Past Suppositional points to problematic actions in the past, which took place **prior** to the other actions described in the immediate context.
- SHOULD + Perfect / Perfect Continuous Infinitive
- They were outraged that nobody **should have supported** their plan.
- It's weird that we **should have stayed** home on such a nice day.
- It was weird that we **should have stayed** home on such a nice day.

COMPLEX SENTENCES EXPRESSING UNREALITY

- Sentences of real and unreal conditions are both expressed by complex sentences.
- In sentences of real condition, the realisation of the condition and the condition itself are real, while in sentences of unreal condition the realisation of the actions in both clauses is impossible.

CONDITIONALS 0-1

- Usually, in the topic Conditionals, which is not the same as Moods, but lies quite close to it, there are singled out a number of types of conditional sentences depending on the time reference of the actions described and whether the actions comply with the real state of things or not. Thus, there are distinguished two types of conditional sentences showing **real** situations in the present (a) or future (b):
- 0 (Zero) Conditional (a); E.g. If you have a plan mapped out, you are sure to succeed.
- 1 (First) Conditional (b); E.g. If you have a plan mapped out, you will definitely succeed.

CONDITIONALS 2-3

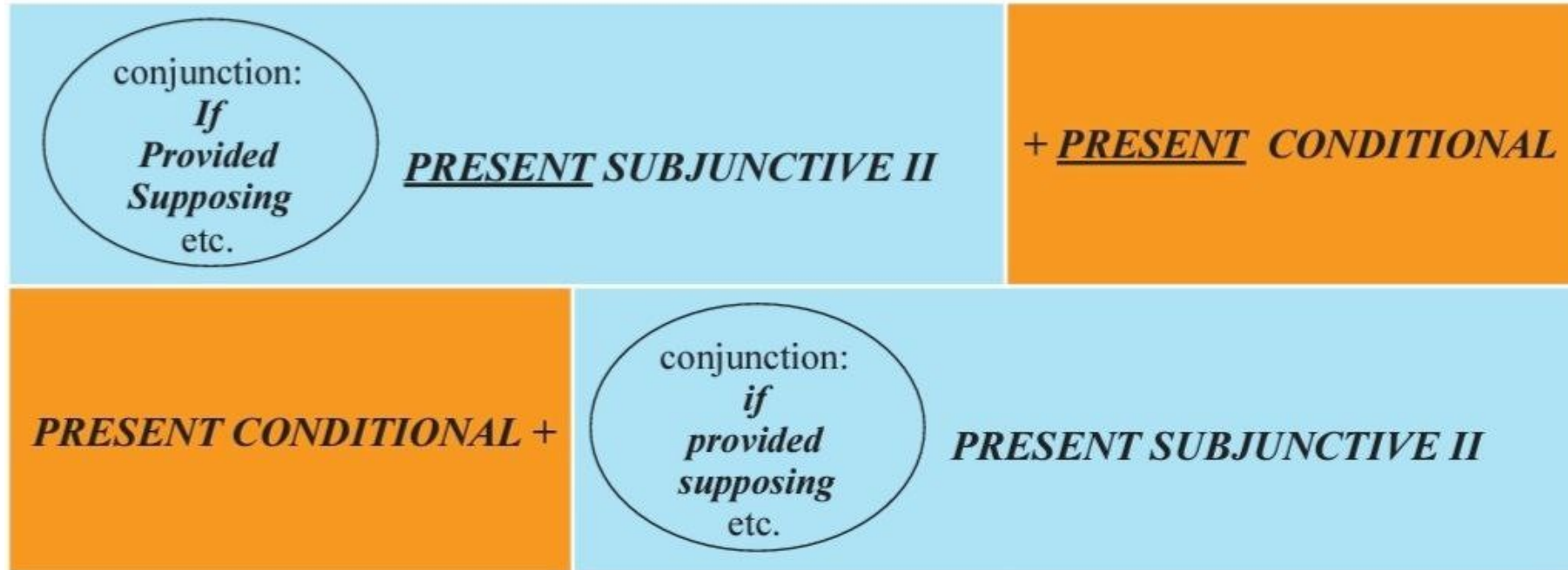
- The other tree types of conditionals express:
- present / future wishes or requests (c)
- past-time speculations (d) contradicting the reality.
- While in the two types mentioned above the verbs go in the **indicative** mood and their agreement is often studied within the topic of Tenses, the remaining three types show **unreal** situations and comprise the verbs in the **oblique** moods:

CONDITIONALS 2-3 (cont.)

- 2 (Second) Conditional (c); E.g. If you had a plan mapped out, we **wouldn't be sitting** here racking our brains what to do now.
- 3 (Third) Conditional (d); E.g. If you'd had (=If you had had) a plan mapped out a month back, we **wouldn't have been sitting** here racking our brains what to do all day long yesterday.
- Mixed (split) Conditional (c + d);
- E.g. If you were a good planner, we wouldn't have been sitting here racking our brains what to do all day long yesterday.
- If you'd had (=If you had had) a plan mapped out yesterday, we wouldn't be sitting here racking our brains what to do now.

Complex sentences of unreal condition: Type 1 (2 Conditional)

TYPE 1 (~ 2 Conditional):



= actions in **both** the principal (main) and the subordinate clauses refer
to the **present /future**

EXAMPLES

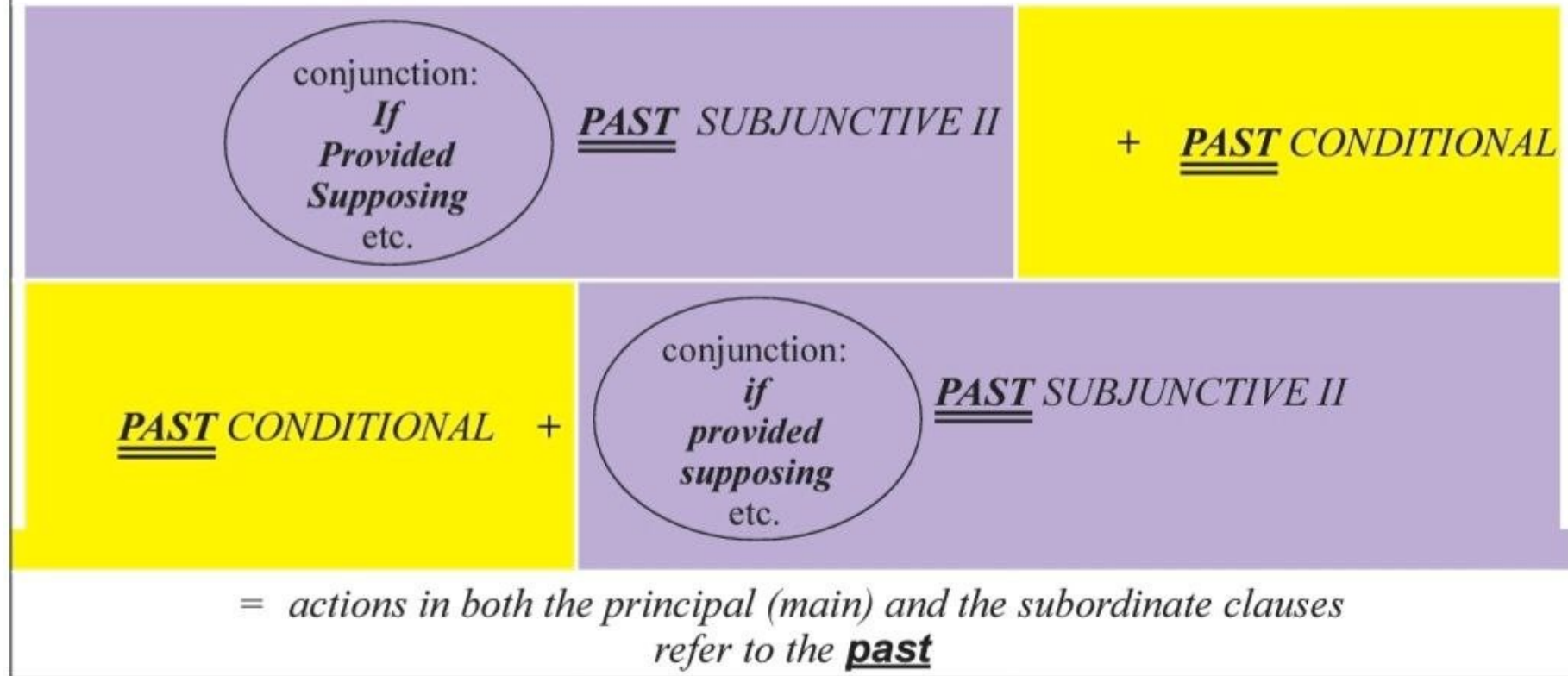
- This type represents **unreal** actions in the principal (main) and subordinate clauses as belonging either to the **present** or to the **future**.
- If Prof Brown **had** more spare time **today**, he **would explain** to his students his new vision of the cell structure.
- If Prof Brown **had** more spare time **tomorrow**, he **would explain** to his students his new vision of the cell structure.

MODAL VERBS IN THE OBLIQUE MOODS

- Modal verbs in the oblique moods are used only in their **past forms**, i.e. could, might, were etc... In both clauses the present forms of Subjunctive II and the Conditional mood function as **homonyms**.
- If I **could** help you, I would do it with pleasure. → 'could' – Present Subjunctive II
- If I had time, I **could** help you with pleasure. → 'could' – Present Conditional

TYPE 2 (~ 3 CONDITIONAL)

TYPE 2 (~ 3 Conditional):



EXAMPLES

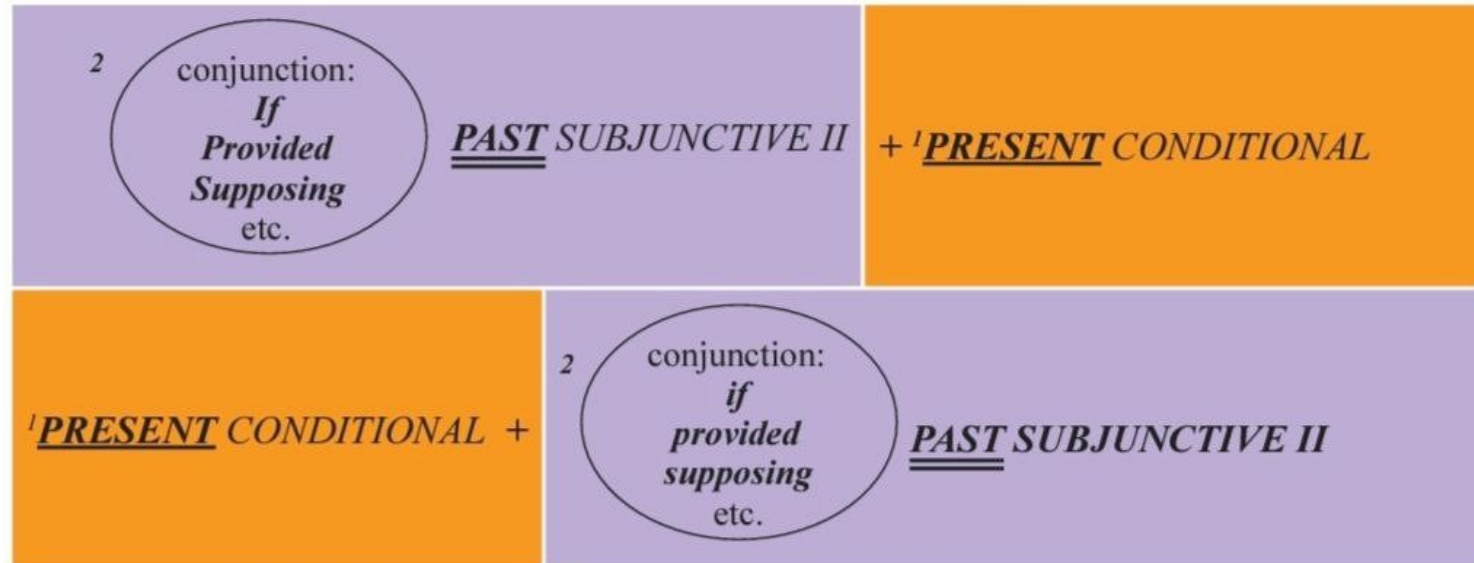
- In this type, the actions represented in both clauses refer to the **past**. Their realisation is regarded as **unreal**.
- In the if-clause, Past Subjunctive II is employed, while in the principal (main) clause Past Conditional is used.
- E.g. If Prof Brown **had had** more spare time **yesterday**, he **would have explained** to his students his new vision of the cell structure.

GRAMMATICAL INVERSION

- Grammatical inversion of the verbs in the if-clause (not only of modal verbs and the verb 'to be', but others as well) is often used in this type.
- E.g. **Had** you spoken nicely to him, he wouldn't have gone away.
- **Could** I have helped you yesterday, I would have done it with pleasure.

TYPE 3 (SPLIT, OR MIXED TYPE)

TYPE 3A (~ Split/mixed type):



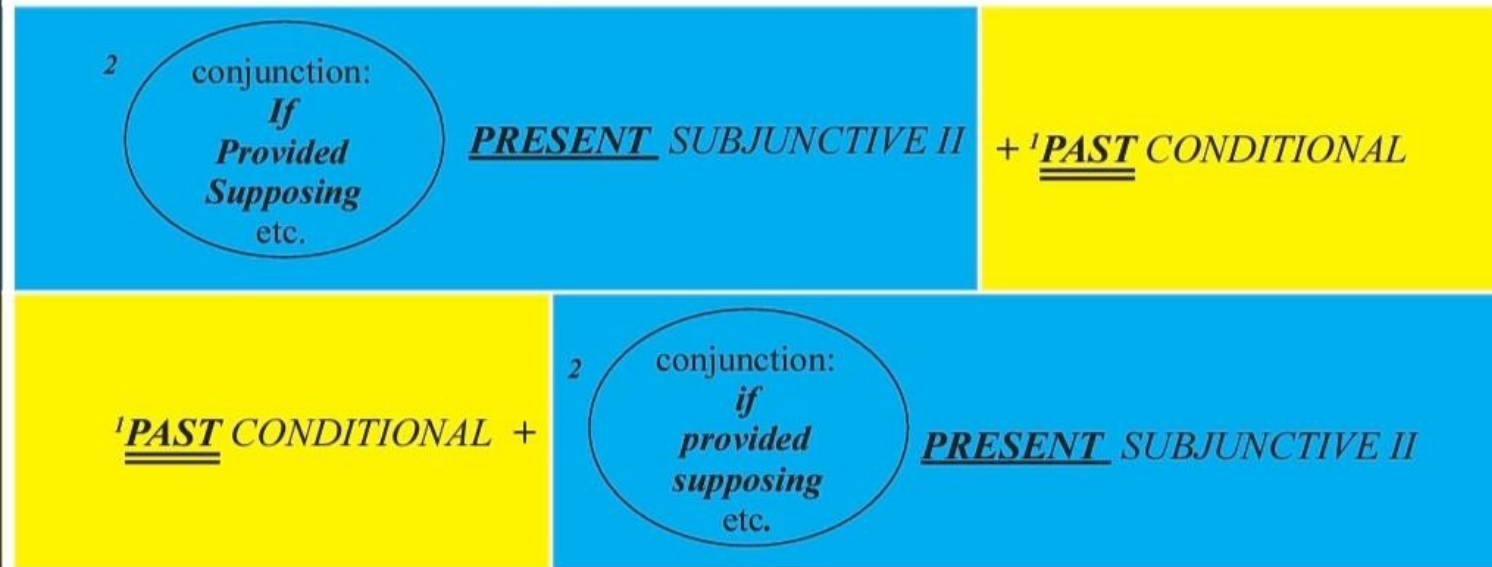
= the action in the principal (main) clause (1)
refers to the present /future,
while the **condition** given in the subordinate clause (2)
refers to the past

EXAMPLES

- This type is termed ‘split’ or ‘mixed’ because the condition and its realisation are **split in time** and the use of forms is mixed. The time split makes the situation **unreal**.
- Type 3A is used if the condition refers to the **past** and its realisation – to the **present** or **future**.
- In the if-clause Past Subjunctive II is employed, while the Present Conditional mood functions in the main clause.
- E.g. If Prof Brown **had gone** to Spain last week, he **wouldn’t be delivering** a lecture about his latest experiments to his students this time tomorrow.
- **Had** Harry **not got married** last year, he **would be** the most perspective bachelor in our country.

TYPE 3 (SPLIT, OR MIXED TYPE)

TYPE 3B (~ Split/mixed type):



= the action in the principal (main) clause (1)

refers to the past.

while the condition given in the subordinate clause (2)

refers to the present /future or

shows the natural state of things (grammatical constanta)

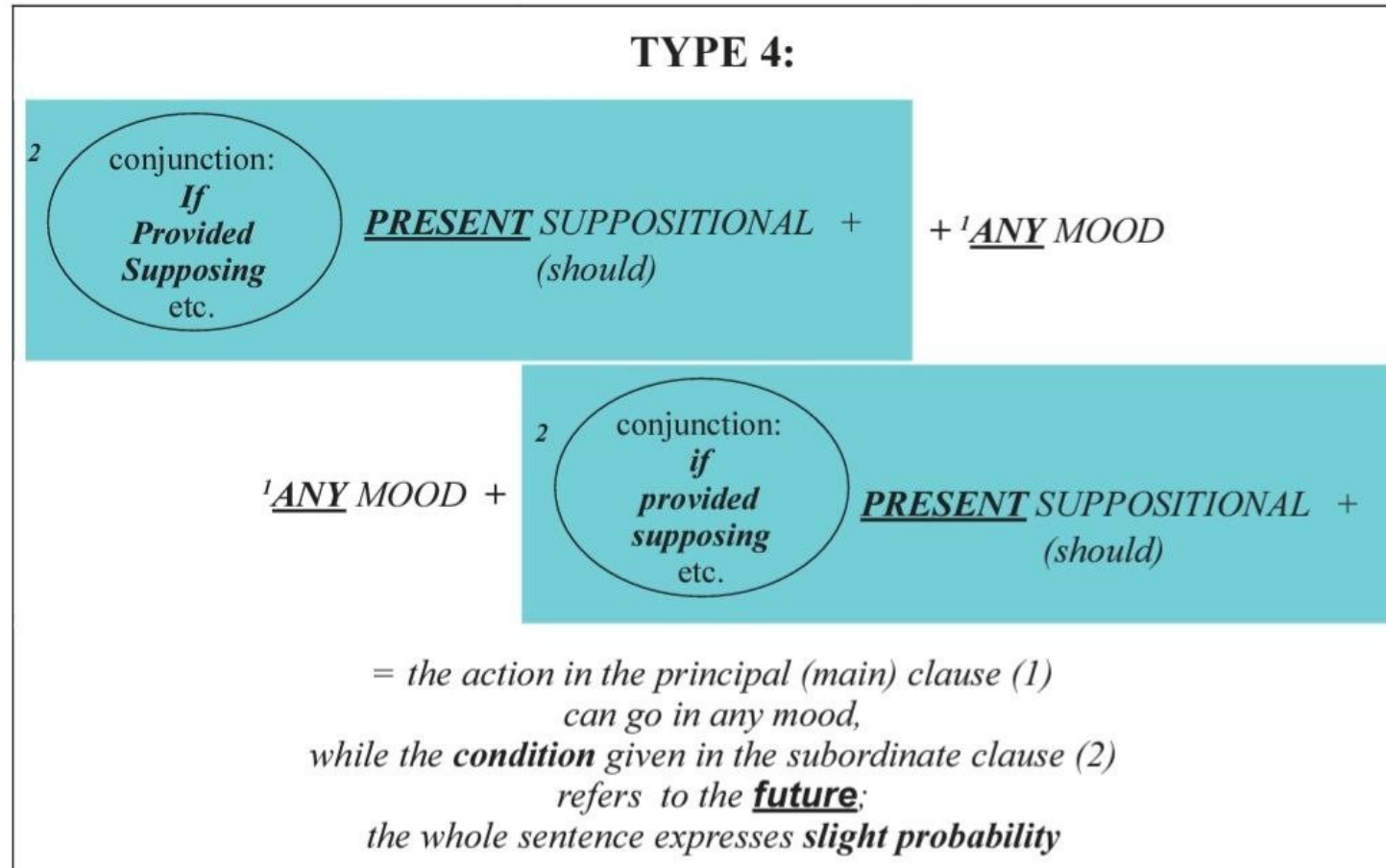
EXAMPLES

- Type 3B is employed when the condition points to the **present, future**, or to **no particular time** at all (the so-called 'grammatical constanta'), and its realisation refers to the **past**.
- In the if-clause Present Subjunctive II is used, in the main (principal) clause the Past Conditional mood is employed.
- E.g. Suppose Egan **knew** German, **would** he **have taken** the advertised position of the interpreter last week? (Egan's knowledge of German is understood as a permanent ability, while his having or not having taken the interpreter's position is regarded as a past-time action).

GRAMMATICAL INVERSION

- In Type 3, both its subtypes A and B, inversion is quite common. In Type 3A, any verb can be placed before the subject (a), in Type 3B, only modal verbs and the verb 'to be' can occupy the first position in the sentence.
- E.g. a) **Had** Fatty listened to his mom, he wouldn't be sitting there in the shed without a chance to sneak out.
- b) **Were** I a man, I would have fallen in love with you, head over heels, Mag.

TYPE 4 (PROBLEMATIC CONDITION)



EXAMPLES

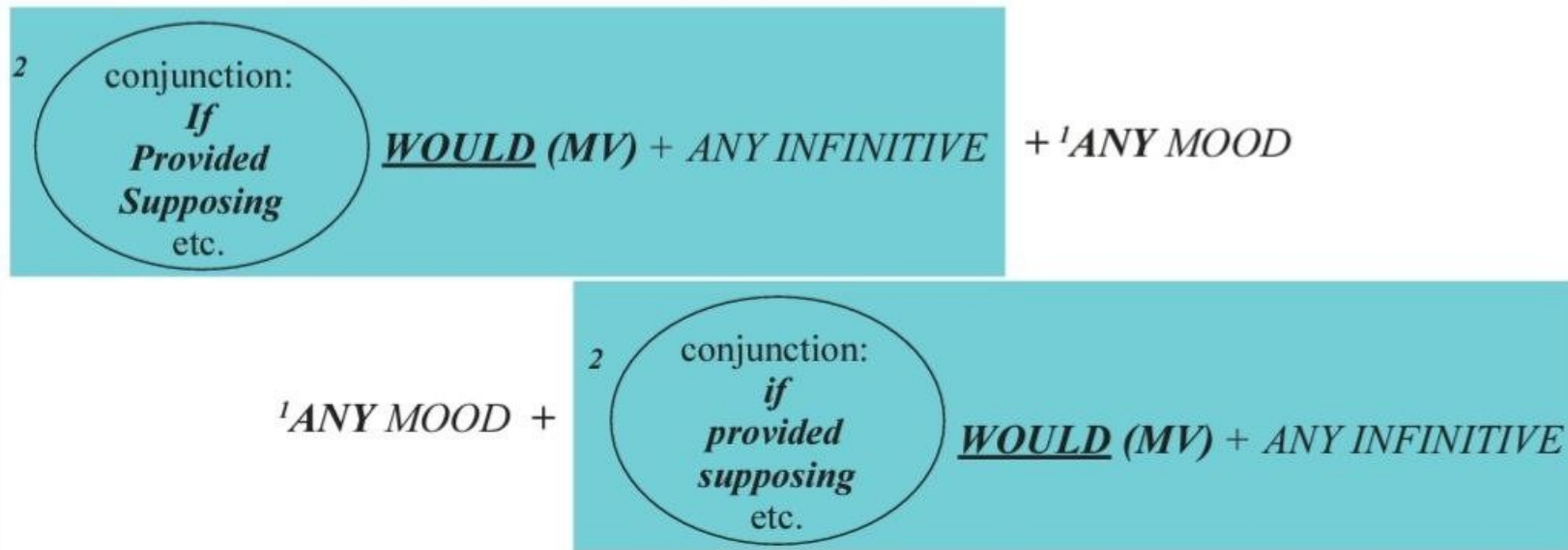
- Type 4 is termed problematic because the realisation of the condition is regarded by the speaker as possible, though doubtful. The action in the if-clause always belongs to the future and is translated into Ukrainian as «а все ж таки», «щоб трапилось», «якщо раптом»... Here the Present Suppositional (SHOULD + Indefinite Infinitive) is used.
- In the main clause any mood required by the context is employed. The whole sentence has a shade of “chance-action”.
- E.g. Should you need my advice, don't be shy to call. (The Present Suppositional mood is combined with the imperative mood).
- If he should come across this book, he will buy it. (The Present Suppositional mood stands alongside with the indicative mood, Future Indefinite tense).

GRAMMATICAL INVERSION

- In Type 4, the verb in the subordinate clause undergoes inversion even more often than in any other type.
- E.g. Should I see you again, young man, I won't just shut the door into your face, mind you that!

TYPE 5 (WISHFUL CONDITION / VOLUNTATIVE)

TYPE 5:



= the action in the principal (main) clause (1)
can go in any mood,
while the **condition** given in the subordinate clause (2)
refers to the future and has a traditional meaning of **wish**

RULES

- Type 5 belongs to the **future**. The condition expressed in the if-clause shows the doer's wish as to the fulfilment of the action represented in the main clause.
- In the conditional if-clause referring to the future, the modal verb WOULD is used as it renders the traditional meaning of willingness. In the main (principal) clause any mood required by the context is employed (quite often it's the Conditional Mood). Hence, formally the verb form in the main clause often looks homonymous with that used in the conditional clause.
- Generally, Type 5 is used when the speaker wants to add to his/her statement an additional shade of the subject's willingness to perform the action which commonly refers to giving somebody permission to carry out an action, complying with the rules of decorum, keeping to a diet, taking up sports, quitting smoking, or dying one's hair.

EXAMPLES

- E.g. We would take little Ann with us if Mum **would let** us go.
- If Tom **would take up** karate, he wouldn't be afraid to go home alone.
(Here Tom's wishing or not wishing to go in for sports is a condition for his being afraid or not afraid to go home alone).
- If Jane would wear less make up, she would look much younger.

Oblique Moods in English

SYNTHETIC			ANALYTICAL			
SUBJUNCTIVE I	SUBJUNCTIVE II		CONDITIONAL		SUPPOSITIONAL	
looks like the infinitive without 'to' . It's used:	PRESENT SUBJUNCTIVE II	PAST SUBJUNCTIVE II	PRESENT CONDITIONAL	PAST CONDITIONAL	PRESENT SUPPOSITIONAL	PAST SUPPOSITIONAL
1) in sentences expressing an indirect command, wish, supposition etc.	looks like Past Indefinite / Past Continuous * The form ' <i>were</i> ' is used for all persons, esp. in formal English.	looks like Past Perfect / Past Perfect Continuous <i>E.g. Oh, if he <u>had come</u> earlier!</i>	look like Future-in-the-Past		SHOULD + Infinitive 1) The meaning is close to SUBJUNCTIVE I ; 2) expresses emotional coloring.	
2) in cliches						
<i>E.g. He suggested that the boy <u>go</u> home.</i>	<i>E.g. I wish it <u>were</u> spring.</i>		SHOULD / WOULD + Indefinite Infinitive	SHOULD / WOULD + Perfect Infinitive	SHOULD + Indefinite Infinitive	SHOULD + Perfect Infinitive
<i><u>Be</u> it so!</i>			<i>E.g. I <u>would rather go</u> home.</i>	<i>E.g. I <u>would have come</u> home still yesterday.</i>	<i>E.g. He was afraid lest she <u>should betray</u> him.</i> * <i>lest</i> – аби не, якби не...	<i>E.g. I'm surprised that he <u>should have said</u> it.</i>

NB! With modal verbs, the forms of the **CONDITIONAL MOOD** and **PAST SUBJUNCTIVE II** are homonymous:

Present Subjunctive II
*E.g. If I had time, I **could** help you.*

Present Conditional
*If I **could** help you, I would do it with pleasure.*

**WHEN YOU USE THE SUBJUNCTIVE
VERB MOOD RIGHT**

