

## Conditional 3

Did Thiokol test the O-Rings properly?      **No!**

Did they solve the problem?      **No!**

*But if Thiokol ....*

If Thiokol *had tested* the O-Rings properly, they *would have solved* the problem.

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Was the weather forecast correct?      **No!**

Did they launch?      **No!**

*But if the weather forecast ....*

If the weather forecast *had been* correct, they *would have* launched.

Did NASA have the correct tools to fix the hatch door? No!

Did they close the door quickly? No!

*But if NASA ....*

If NASA had had the correct tools to fix the hatch door, they would have closed the door quickly.

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Were the first batteries dead? Yes!

Did they need to send for more batteries? Yes!

*But if the first batteries ....*

If the first batteries had not been dead, they would not have needed to send for more batteries.

Did they fix the hatch door in time? No!

Did they launch? No!

*But if they ....*

If they had fixed the hatch door in time, they would have launched.

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Did NASA know about the O-Ring problem? No!

Did they launch? Yes!

*But if NASA ....*

If NASA had known about the O-Ring problem, they would not have launched.

Was the temperature on launch day very cold? Yes!

Did the O-Rings freeze? Yes!

*But if the temperature....*

If the temperature on launch day had not been very cold, the O-Rings would not have frozen..

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Was the shuttle hit by a strong wind? Yes!

Did the O-Ring seal break? Yes!

*But if ....*

If the shuttle had not been hit by a strong wind, the seal would not have broken.

Did the seal break?

Yes!

Did the shuttle explode?

Yes!

*But if the seal ....*

If the seal had not broken, the shuttle would not have exploded.

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Did NASA and Thiokol make good decisions?

No!

Did the disaster occur?

Yes!

*But if NASA and Thiokol ....*

If NASA and Thiokol had made good decisions, the disaster would not have occurred.

Note that a reverse clause order is also possible:

If the seal had not broken, the shuttle would not have exploded.  
- The shuttle would not have exploded if the seal had not broken.

If NASA and Thiakol had made good decisions, the disaster would not have occurred.  
- The disaster would not have occurred if NASA and Thiakol had made good decisions,

*Note the comma when the if-clause starts the sentence!*