

A plan needs more than good weather

Start with your experience

You are organizing a small outdoor skills workshop.

Which problems can you prepare for before Saturday?

Your ideas, examples and corrections

Move the cards. Explain one choice.

Add an idea of your own. Different answers are possible.

Prepare now

Decide on the day

Rain

Too many visitors

A missing volunteer

A late delivery

An unclear sign

No spare supplies

Choose one problem and explain an action that would help.

Planning without panic

Useful language in context

backup plan — We need a backup plan for rain.
forecast — The forecast may change before Saturday.
capacity — The room's capacity is twenty people.
volunteer — A volunteer will welcome visitors.
supplies — We have enough supplies for ten pairs.
confirm — Please confirm your place by Friday.
cancel — We don't want to cancel the whole event.
move indoors — We can move indoors if it rains.
sign up — Visitors can sign up for a later session.
run out of — We might run out of paper.
in advance — Send clear instructions in advance.
responsible for — I'm responsible for the welcome desk.

Examples from your own life

Choose three expressions. Use them in a short exchange with your tutor.

The event is still on

Read for the main idea, then for details

Our neighborhood group is running a repair workshop on Saturday. Visitors can learn to sew a button or repair a loose book cover. The original plan was to use the park, with two volunteers at each activity. However, the forecast now shows possible rain, so organizer Lena has written a backup plan.

If it rains on Saturday morning, the workshop will move to the community hall. The hall has space for twenty visitors at a time, but thirty people have already confirmed. Lena will email everyone on Friday with two session times. Visitors must choose one session. If more than twenty choose the same time, she'll ask some people to switch; she won't promise extra places.

Volunteer Sam is worried about supplies. There is enough thread and glue, but only ten repair kits. Lena suggests working in pairs. Each pair will share a kit, and the volunteers will demonstrate each task before anyone starts. If a volunteer is absent, the group will offer one activity instead of two.

Lena wants the event to feel welcoming, not rushed. She will put a clear sign at the park entrance if the location changes. Sam agrees to take the sign there. One decision is still open: who will contact visitors who do not reply to Friday's email?

Evidence hunt

What changes if it rains?

Why do visitors choose a session?

Which responsibility is still unassigned?

Quote a detail. Add your interpretation.

Separate what the writer tells you from what you still need to ask.

If this happens, we'll do that

A useful pattern

For a realistic future possibility: if + present simple, will + base verb.

If it rains, we'll move indoors.

The if-clause names the condition; the other clause names the result.

Write and improve your own examples

Compare the examples

Condition / result	Same meaning, new order
If Sam is absent, we'll adapt.	We'll adapt if Sam is absent.
If it rains, we won't cancel.	We won't cancel if it rains.

Try it together

Complete: If more visitors arrive, we'll ____.

Keep the condition in present simple here: not "if it will rain."

Add a plan that fits the room's capacity.

Use the pattern to communicate a real meaning, not just to fill a gap.

Make the plan work

1. Why doesn't the plan promise a place to every visitor at their preferred time?

Your answer / evidence

2. Complete for a future possibility: If one volunteer ____ (be) absent, we ____ (offer) one activity.

Your answer / evidence

3. Does having ten kits mean only ten visitors can take part? Explain using the text.

Your answer / evidence

4. Name the unfinished part of the plan and propose an owner and deadline.

Your answer / evidence

Another attempt / questions for your tutor

Check the meaning first. Then compare your answer with the teacher notes.

Choose a backup plan you can explain

Role A

You organize a free neighborhood book swap.

The indoor room holds fifteen visitors. Twenty-five have signed up.

You can offer two sessions but cannot hire a larger room.

Role B

You coordinate volunteers. One person may be absent.

You have one hour to tell visitors about changes.

Ask who will do each task and by when.

Decide together

Agree on two conditions, two actions and a named owner for each.

Use first conditional sentences to explain your plan.

Check whether the plan works if both problems happen.

Our final message / useful corrections

I can explain a realistic contingency and check that the actions fit the constraints.