

CONDITIONAL TENSE

The Conditional tense is used to show **possibility**. It translates as **would** or **could**. Just like the future tense, the endings for –AR, -ER, & -IR verbs are all the same, and they are attached directly to the end of the verb without first removing the -AR, -ER, or -IR! The Conditional tense also shares other traits with the Future tense:

1. It has no stem changes
2. *It has the same irregulars!*

CONDITIONAL ENDINGS

Yo	ía	Nosotros	íamos
Tú	ías	Vosotros	íais
Él / Ella / Ud.	ía	Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	ían

Example of a regular verb: cantar = to sing. I would sing = cantar**ía**.

Example of an irregular verb;

PODER – to be able (can or, in this tense, could)

Yo	Podría	Nosotros	Podríamos
Tú	Podrías	Vosotros	Podrías
Él / Ella / Ud.	Podría	Ellos / Ellas / Uds.	Podrían

Other important items to note;

1. A main use of this tense is to **make polite requests**.
2. “Would” isn’t always conditional. **When would is used to refer to something that was habitual in the past, you should use the imperfect past tense.**
3. **Just as the future tense is used to express probability in the present, the conditional may be used to express it in the past.** For example;

She’s probably at home (present) = Estará en casa. (future)

She was probably at home (past) = Estaría en casa. (cond.)