

《小词不简单 unless 口语用法指南》

STRUCTURE

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As mentioned above, unless is a conjunction which we use in conditional phrases. In written English, the clause that follows unless is the subordinate clause (SC) meaning that it needs a main clause (MC) to make a complete sentence. It is similar to how we use if in conditional phrases.

?????unless?????????????????????unless?????????(SC)?????(MC)?????????if??????????????

When unless comes before a main clause we use a comma:

unless?????????????

Unless it rains, we'll go for a picnic tomorrow.

[en](SC) (MC)

[/en]

????????????????????

When the main clause comes first, no comma is required:

???????????????

They won't come unless you invite them.

[en](MC) (SC)

[/en]

????????????????????

Unless is like If in that we don't not use will/would after it. We only use the present simple tense.

?if????????unless????will/would???????????

Unless I hear from you, I'll see you at 5pm.

????????????5????

HOW DO WE USE "UNLESS"?

????"unless"?

Unless and if not

unless?if not

Ok, so unless is similar to "ifnot" and together they mean "except if". Note: We refer to real conditional situations and NOT impossible situations.

unless?if...not?????????"?"????????????????????????????

If you don't study, you will fail your exam./ Unless you study, you will fail.

????????????????/????????????????

We could eat at Frankie and Benny's if they're not closed on a Monday/ We could eat at Frankie and Benny's unless they are closed on a Monday.

????&????????????????/????&????????????????

I'll make dinner if nobody wants to/ I'll make dinner unless someone else wants to.

????????????/????????????

If you don't stop smoking, you will feel bad/ Unless you stop smoking, you will feel bad

????????????/????????????

???unless?????????unless????????????????????????????????

[illegible]

???????

??“??”????unless?

????????????????/????????????????

??

???????unless????????????

????????—????????

A??!?????!!

B: Unless they've got a visitor.

B??????????

HOW about "NOT UNLESS"?

not unless?????

Not unless is similar to only if

not unless?only if??

Example:

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Shall I tell Liz what happened? Not unless she asks you (= only if she asks you)

????????????????????

Will you come shopping with me? Not unless you offer me lunch (= only if you offer me lunch)

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