




If-clauses and Sustainability – My Climate-Friendly Home

My Dream Eco-Home

 **Unit Question:** How can we make our homes more climate-friendly and energy-efficient while saving money on rising utility bills?

TASK A - Reading & Analysis ★ ★

Read the text.

A Day in the Life of an Heating and Plumbing Apprentice

Tom is a heating and plumbing apprentice. Today, he visits a family who wants to modernise its home. The family is worried about rising energy costs and high CO₂ emissions. Their old heating system is inefficient. Tom explains different sustainable options, such as installing a heat pump and improving insulation. These technologies can reduce energy consumption and protect the environment. However, the family is not sure because the costs are high. They do not know which solution is the best in the long term.

Tasks:

1. Which problem does the family have?
2. Name two sustainable solutions mentioned in the text.
3. Why is the family not sure?
4. What would you recommend to the family? Give one idea.

TASK B - Vocabulary in Context ★ ★

1. Complete the sentences using the correct term.


(heat pump – renewable energy – smart thermostat – insulation – water-saving device – CO₂ emissions – energy efficiency – utility bills)

- a) If the family installed a better _____, they would lose less heat.
- b) If they used _____, they would produce their own electricity.
- c) A _____ could reduce heating costs significantly.
- d) Improving _____ would help reduce energy consumption.
- e) A _____ heats a house using environmental energy.

2. Explain why these technologies are useful:

Choose two technologies and complete the sentences.

- a) _____ is useful because
- b) _____ is useful because ...

 *Hint: Think about energy, costs and the environment.*

3. Apply the vocabulary to your own situation:

Write one sentence about your home using at least one of the terms.



TASK C - Grammar: Type II Conditionals ★ ★

1. Compare the sentences:

- If the family installs a heat pump, it will save energy.
- If the family installed a heat pump, it would save energy

2. What is the difference?

- Sentence 1 describes ...
- Sentence 2 describes ...

👉 Answer the questions:

- What tense is used after "if" in sentence 2?
- What tense is used in the main clause?

👉 Choose the correct option:

- Type I describes: real/unreal situations
- Type II describes: real / unreal situations

TASK D – Practice: Type II Conditionals ★ ★

1. Guided Practice – Complete the sentences:

- If a heating and plumbing technician _____ (install) solar panels, the family _____ (produce) their own electricity.
- If a plumber _____ (replace) the shower head, the household _____ (use) less water.
- If the family _____ (invest) in renewable energy, they _____ (reduce) their energy costs.
- If a technician _____ (improve) the insulation, the house _____ (keep) more heat.

RULE (TYPE II)

If + simple past → would + infinitive

Use:

Type I → real/possible situations
Type II → unreal/hypothetical situations



2. Choose the correct option AND explain your choice:

- If the family **had / would have** more money, they would invest in renewable energy.
 - Explanation: ...
- If they **installed / would install** a heat pump, they would reduce CO₂ emissions.
 - Explanation: ...

3. Rewrite the sentences using Type II conditionals.

- The family has more money. They invest in renewable energy.
- The house is not well insulated. It loses heat.
- The family does not use eco-mode. They waste electricity.
- The heating system is old. It uses a lot of energy.
- The family does not install solar panels. They cannot produce their own electricity.

4. Your own example: Write one sentence about your own home.

TASK E – Concept Development: My Dream Eco-Home ★ ★ ★

🌐 Scenario:

Imagine you are part of a sustainability innovation team designing a "Dream Eco-Home" for the future. Money is not a limitation.



Task F ★ ★ ★

Work in groups and create a concept for your eco-home. Prepare a short presentation (approx. 2 – 5 minutes).

☑ Your concept should include:

- at least **three sustainable technologies** (e.g. heat pump, solar panels, rainwater harvesting system)
- an explanation of how these technologies improve **energy efficiency, reduce CO₂ emissions and lower costs** in the long term
- at least **four Type II conditionals**
- at least **three technical terms** from the unit

🔗 Sentence Support:

If we installed ..., we could also ...
If we improved ..., we would reduce ...
If the house had ...
If the family invested in...
This would reduce...
As a result, the family would ...
This would be beneficial because ...

👥 Partner / Group Check

- Have you used at least **four Type II conditionals**?
- Have you used **technical vocabulary** correctly?
- Is your explanation clear and realistic?

🖥️ **Optional (Digital Extension):** Visualise your eco-home using digital design tools (e.g. AI-based image generators) in accordance with school policy.

Final Reflection

- ◆ Clearly answer the Unit Question: *How does your dream house contribute to a climate-friendly and cost-efficient future?*
- ◆ Write a short answer (2–3 sentences).
- ◆ Use at least **one Type II conditional**.