


If-clauses and Sustainability – My Climate-Friendly Home

Looking Back: Missed Opportunities


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


TASK A - Warm-Up: Looking Back ★ ★

1. Compare the following heating systems and decide if an old oil heating system or a modern heat pump is more sustainable. Which advantages did older systems have?

Think about the following aspects:

- energy efficiency
- CO₂ emissions
- long-term costs
- environmental impact

 **optional:** You may use the Internet to find additional information about heating systems. Make sure to use reliable sources and follow your school's guidelines.

2.  **Key question:** Imagine that sustainable technologies had been introduced earlier. What might have happened? Write down 2 – 3 ideas (notes only).

TASK B - Vocabulary Activation ★ ★

Choose two terms from the vocabulary box.

1. Write one sentence about the past (simple past):

- The family ...

2. Describe the consequence:

- As a result, ...

3. Think Ahead:

- What effect did this have on energy use, costs or the environment in the long term?

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

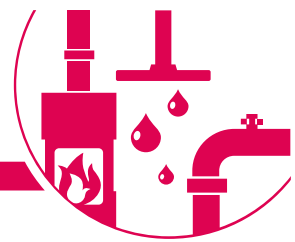
TASK C - Grammar Focus: Type III Conditionals ★ ★

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.
- If the family had installed a heat pump, it would have saved energy.

 **Answer the questions:**

- Which sentence refers to the present/future?
- Which sentence describes an unreal situation now?
- Which sentence describes the past?



2. Describe what each type is used for.

- Type I → ...
- Type II → ...
- Type III → ...

3. Guided Practice – Complete the sentences:

Use the Type III conditional

- If renewable energy _____ (be installed) earlier, emissions _____ (decrease).
- If people _____ (use) water-saving devices, they _____ (save) more water.

4. Transform the sentences into Type III conditionals:

- The house was not insulated early. → It wasted energy.
☞ If the house
- The family didn't install a heat pump. → They had high costs.
☞ If the family ...

5. Guided Discovery:

Use your ideas from TASK B (Think Ahead).

☞ Now express your idea using a **Type III conditional**.

a) Complete the sentence: If the family _____, they would

b) Develop your idea further: If they had installed _____ earlier, they would have

TASK D – Reflection: Missed Opportunities ★ ★ ★

Scenario: Think about past decisions in energy and sustainability.

Choose one topic and write a short paragraph (3- 4 sentences):

- old heating systems • missing insulation • no renewable energy • no water-saving technologies

Structure your answer:

- Describe the past situation.
- Explain what was done wrong or missing.
- Describe the consequences.
- Suggest what should have been done instead.

Your answer should include:

- at least two Type III conditionals
- at least two technical terms
- a clear explanation of environmental or financial consequences

Sentence support

If the house had ..., it would have ...
If the family had invested in ..., they would have ...
This would have reduced ...
As a result, ...



TASK E- Final discussion ★ ★ ★

1. **Discuss in pairs or groups:** Why is the profession of heating and plumbing technicians important for climate protection?
2. **Back to the Unit Question:**
How can we make our homes more climate-friendly and energy-efficient while saving money on rising utility bills?
Think about: What are the most effective solutions today? What should have been done earlier?
Write one final Type III sentence.