

Using 'unless' and 'if'

'If' means 'on condition that'.

Example: He will not be accused of the crime if he has an alibi.

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on condition that

'Unless' means 'except if'.

Example: You may dress casually for the party unless it is a formal event.

↓
except if

Fill in the blanks with 'unless' or 'if'.

- _____ the car cannot be repaired on time, we will have to take a taxi.
- The beef would have been tender _____ she had not overcooked it.
- The director will not relinquish his position in the company _____ his son agrees to take over.
- Please be appropriately dressed for the interview _____ you want to leave a good impression.
- _____ you take out fire insurance for your house, you will have to pay for all the damages yourself in the event of a fire.
- _____ you are caught drink driving, you might lose your licence.
- She might consider moving to the suburbs _____ she can find a suitable house.
- The political candidate will not win the election _____ his proposed policies do not appeal to the public.
- The coach will not substitute a player during the match _____ he is injured.
- _____ you fulfil all the criteria, you will not be selected to join the programme.
- _____ he cannot find a course of study that he likes in the polytechnic, he will go to college instead.
- She should not take a bank loan _____ she is certain of being able to pay back the loan within the specified time.
- I dread to think of what might have happened _____ the lorry driver had not seen the cyclist in time.
- _____ it is off peak hours, there will probably be a traffic jam along the expressway.
- _____ you are a fan of vintage cars, you will find the car museum very interesting.

Answers:
1. if
6. if
11. if

2. unless
7. if
12. unless

3. unless
8. if
13. if

4. if
9. unless
14. Unless

5. Unless
10. Unless
15. if