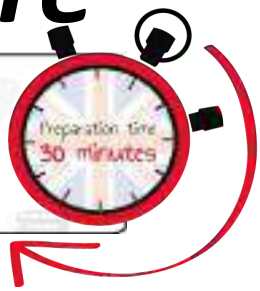
Lesson Plan © Easy Access English

Ikea future of furniture

EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Practice using the furture 'will'. Real and unreal future conditionals.
Listening and reading comprehension and revision of vocabulary



Activty 1- Ask and answer the questions with a partner or teacher

- In what way has the furniture in our homes changed over the last 100 years?
- How do you think the furniture in our homes will be different in the next 100 years?
- What challenges will Ikea face in adapting to the demands of future furniture trends?
- Do you think in the future people will have more furniture in their homes or less?
- Which invention do you wish they would create for your home?

Activity 2- Future conditionals

Future “real” conditional-
The future real conditional describes what you will do in a specific situation in the future. Even though it is describing events in the future it is called the “real” conditional because it is possible that the action might occur.
Structure- If/when + simple present, … + simple future

Examples-
If I go to my friends dinner tonight I will bring some flowers.
When I get some time off from work I will go on holidays
When the weather is good I will go to the beach
I am going to go to the cinema tonight if there is nothing good on TV.

Future “unreal” conditional-
The future unreal conditional is used to talk about imaginary situations in the future. Its only used when a speaker needs to emphasize that something is impossible and therefore is used less often than the future “real” conditional.
N.B. The unreal conditional can only be used with “if” not “when”
There are multiple ways we can form the future unreal conditional



Form 1-
If + simple past+ would+ verb
If I had the money I would buy a robot for my home
I am busy next Saturday. If I had time, I would come to your party.
Because this form also looks like the present unreal conditional many native speakers prefer the second form to emphasize they are talking about the future
(If … were + present participle, would be + present participle)
If I were going to Dublin tomorrow I would be taking my rain coat with me
If I were not running a marathon on the weekend I would go to your dinner.
If I were not visiting my Mother tomorrow I would help you with my homework
N.B. Many native speakers will switch “were” for “was” in informal speech.

Activity-3

Fill in the following gaps with either the real or unreal future conditional

1. Researchers are visiting Sweden next week to see if they can find the hidden furniture designs to inspire new ideas. I seriously doubt they will find anything. If they did actually manage to find something, I am sure they (become)_____ world famous.

2. I am going to go to England next week with Ikea on business. If I have enough time, I (visit)_____ my friends in London.

3. Sally has always been interested in vitange furniture design. When she (go)___ to Sweden, she (visit) _____ different factories to get new inspiration.

4. I am afraid I won't be able to come to the meeting next week because my manager is sending me to New York to attend a trade show. I (miss, never) _____ the meeting if I (have) _____ a choice in the matter.

5. I (interpret) _____ for you at the conference tomorrow if I (be) _____ not already scheduled to work at the UN. I have a friend who (do) _____ it for you if she (be) _____ not busy. Why don't I give her a call to see what her schedule is like.

6. If mankind (do)_____ not do something about the destruction of the rain forest, global warming (cause) _____ dramatic changes in weather conditions all over the world.

7. Even if they managed to convince him to run for president in the next election, he (be, never) _____ elected. His ideas are too dramatic and unconventional to be accepted by the mainstream.

Activity 4 - Vocabulary
Match the vocabulary with the correct definition

Wardrobe	With shelves for storing books
Island	Used to store household objects
Matress	A seat that can be turned into a bed
Cupboard	A seat for more than one person
Easel	Used on the windows
Shutters	Has a flat top with one or more legs
Table	Used to store clothes
Stool	A simple seat without a back or arms
Sofa	Something soft to sleep on
Bookcase	Artists' equipment
Futon	A feature used in some kitchens



Add some more furniture to the list!

Activity 5 **- Furniture**

Which peices of furniture from the previous activity would you find in the different room sets in Ikea?

What new ideas do you think will be introduced in the future? Maybe mixing rooms together or combining furniture ideas. Discuss with a partner or your teacher what you think will be different in the future.

Acitivty 6 – Reading



Read the article with your partner or teacher and answer the comprehension questions.

INDUSTRY

The future of the furniture design industry is for sure going to reach an even broader mass consumer market. A growing sophistication in techniques makes it much easier for final consumers to buy design furniture products and the growth potential of this market seems really promising. Major companies such as Ikea have been able to reach an important part of the market offering scandinavian style furniture for a very cheap price. Although, this brought us to a uniformed kind of interior where everything starts to look the same. Consumers are starting to look for products which are more unique, that are made by upcoming designers.

The future of furniture design is turning into a search for creative and unique designs made by craftsmen as well as an alternative way of consuming. Indeed, numerous furniture design customers are looking for a new way of consuming, more in parallel with fair consumption and sustainable development. There is a huge consumer need to buy something different from all the mainstream design products.

TECHNIQUES & MATERIALS

In terms of techniques, in the future we will see a lot of new products made by using 3D-printing technique

This lamp by the designer Elise Luttik is a very nice example of what can be done nowadays using 3D Printers.

The use of advanced-technology will play an important part in the furniture industry. Laser-cutting is also a very good example of this technology.

The Mini-Spot from the design studio Van Tjalle en Jasper is a beautiful example of what can be done nowadays using this technique.

Lately, new and unexpected materials are being used in the industry. Materials such as concrete and cardboard are mainly used for other purposes, yet it surprises the furniture industry with creative and unique creations.

Here for example are two cardboard side tables from the Italian designer Andrea Brugnera.

Some very surprising associations have also appeared such as this crocheted lampby the design studio Et Aussi…

Questions-

1. What does the author feel is “for sure” going to happen with the furniture industry?
2. According to the article, how has Ikea been successful so far in the furniture industry?
3. What change in consumer tastes does he predict?
4. Look at all the images of the futuristic furniture, which one is your favourite?
5. Do you think that these items of furniture are reflective of what the future of furniture would be?

Activity 7 – Listening

Listen to the song and fill in the gaps with the correct verbs in the future

The beatles – All my loving



Close your eyes and _____ _____ you
Tomorrow _____ _____ you
Remember _____ _____ be true
And then while I'm away
_____ _____ home every day
And _____ _____ all my loving to you

I'll pretend that I'm kissing
The lips I am missing
And hope that my dreams will come true
And then while I'm away
I'll write home every day
And _____ _____ all my loving to you

All my loving I _____ _____ to you
All my loving, darling _____ _____ true

Chorus

All my loving I will send to you
All my loving, darling I'll be true
All my loving, all my loving ooh
All my loving I will send to you

Activity 8 - Role Plays
With a partner or your teacher, act out the following role plays

1 – You are in the store with your family and you can't decide on what style you would all like for the living room. You have to argue that your style is the better option.
2 – You have a crazy new idea for a room setting that has never been done before and your manager does not like the idea. You have to convince them that it is a good idea.
3 – A friend prefers modern furniture, while you like vintage style. You have to compromise and find a style that you would both like.

Activity 9 – Imagine
Design a room set that would appeal to you and describe it to the class or your teacher. What furniture would you use, which colour scheme would you choose, what usual features would you incluse and who would it appeal to?

