

## UNIT 15

## unless

'unless' is used to transform sentences where a condition has to be fulfilled before an action or an incident can happen.

### Example A

You cannot leave the house. You must have Mother's permission first.

#### Answer 1

**Unless** you have Mother's permission, you cannot leave the house.

#### Answer 2

You cannot leave the house **unless** you have Mother's permission.

#### **NOTE:**

Here is a simple example of using 'unless' at the beginning and in the middle of the sentence. The word 'first' is left out as 'unless' has the same connotation.

### Example B

If we train hard, we will win the match.

#### Answer 1

**Unless** we train hard, we will not win the match.

#### Answer 2

We will not win the match **unless** we train hard.

#### **NOTE:**

Here, the word 'not' is added in both answers. It shows that if the condition is not fulfilled (training hard), then there will be no chance of winning the match. Without 'not', the answers will be incorrect.

Some students find difficulty in transforming 'if' sentences with 'unless'. Thus, it pays to practise more of such sentences.

## EXERCISE

For each question, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

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1. You cannot have the stickers. You must pay for the stickers first.  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. The meat will go bad if you don't put it in the refrigerator  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Not only if you agree with me.  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Call me only when it is absolutely necessary  
\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \*5. Put the ice-cream away before the sun melts it.  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Jordan will do the job. He expects to be rewarded though.  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Water the plants more often or they will die in the heat  
\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Make only the promises you intend to keep.  
\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. We will celebrate only when Father gets a promotion.  
Unless \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \*10. A prince's kiss will awaken Sleeping Beauty from her slumber.  
\_\_\_\_\_ unless  
\_\_\_\_\_