

PRESENT CONDITIONAL

WOULD + INFINITIVE

I **would write** him a letter.
Je lui **écrivais** une lettre.

THE PAST CONDITIONAL

PAST CONDITIONAL

to express an action that would
have occurred in the past

PAST CONDITIONAL

WOULD HAVE + past participle
AVOIR/ÊTRE in the present
conditional + past participle

I **would have seen** it.
Je l'**aurais vu**.

COULD + INF = POUVOIR IN THE CONDITIONAL + INF
SHOULD + INF = DEVOIR IN THE CONDITIONAL + INF

I **could** do it.
Je **pourrais** le faire.
I **should** do it.
Je **devrais** le faire.

COULD HAVE + PP = POUVOIR IN THE PAST CONDITIONAL + INF
SHOULD HAVE + PP = DEVOIR IN THE PAST CONDITIONAL + INF

I **could have done** it.
J'**aurais pu** le faire.
I **should have done** it.
J'**aurais dû** le faire.

ATTENTION

COULD can be **past indicative** (je pouvais / j'ai pu) or **conditional** (je pourrais)

Au cas où + conditional (in case)

Prends ton portable au cas où le train **arriverait** en retard.
Bring your cell phone in case the train **arrives** late.

Prends ton portable au cas où le train **serait** déjà **parti** quand vous arriverez à la gare.
Bring your cell phone in case the train **has** already **left** when you

MIGHT = conditional present MIGHT HAVE + pp = cond past

Selon le journal, il y **aurait** une centaine d'habitants dans ce village.
According to the paper, there **might be** a hundred or so inhabitants in this town.

Selon le journal, il y **aurait eu** une centaine de manifestants samedi.
According to the paper, there **might have been** a hundred or so protesters on Saturday.

ATTENTION

- place of negation
- place of adverb
- place of pronoun
- pp agreement

INDIRECT DISCOURSE (see savoir faire on *indirect discourse*)

Maman nous a dit qu'elle **rentrerait** avant minuit. = Mom told us that she **would come** home before midnight.
Maman nous avait dit qu'elle **serait rentrée** avant minuit. = Mom had told us that she **would come** home before midnight.