



Zero Conditional:

Zero Conditional Basics: Facts & General Truths

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. If you ___ water to 100°C, it boils.
a) heat
b) heats
c) heated
d) will heat
2. If ice ___ warm, it melts.
a) get
b) gets
c) got
d) will get
3. Plants die if they ___ enough water.
a) doesn't get
b) won't get
c) don't get
d) didn't get
4. If you ___ a ball in the air, it comes back down.
a) threw
b) will throw
c) throws
d) throw
5. If it ___ below 0°C, water freezes.
a) drop
b) drops
c) dropped
d) will drop
6. Metal ___ if you heat it.
a) expanded
b) expand
c) will expand
d) expands
7. If you ___ oil and water, they separate.
a) mix
b) mixes
c) will mix
d) mixed
8. If a baby ___ hungry, it cries.
a) are
b) be
c) is
d) will be
9. Wood ___ if you put it in water.
a) float
b) will float
c) floats
d) floated
10. If you ___ salt to water, the boiling point rises.
a) add
b) adds
c) added
d) will add
11. If the sun ___, the temperature goes up.
a) shine
b) will shine
c) shone
d) shines

12. Butter ____ if you leave it out of the fridge.
a) melt
b) melts
c) melted
d) will melt
13. If people ____ enough sleep, they feel tired.
a) not get
b) doesn't get
c) won't get
d) don't get
14. If you ____ sugar in tea, it dissolves.
a) puts
b) will put
c) put
d) putting
15. The alarm ____ if someone opens the door.
a) go off
b) goes off
c) went off
d) will go off
16. If a dog ____ happy, it wags its tail.
a) is
b) are
c) be
d) will be
17. If you ____ too much coffee, you can't sleep well.
a) drink
b) drank
c) drinks
d) will drink
18. Cats ____ if you touch their belly.
a) scratches
b) will scratch
c) scratched
d) scratch
19. If the teacher ____ late, the students wait.
a) be
b) are
c) is
d) will be
20. If you ____ a piece of paper, it burns.
a) lights
b) light
c) lit
d) will light



Answers

1. a) heat
2. b) gets
3. c) don't get
4. d) throw
5. b) drops
6. d) expands
7. a) mix
8. c) is
9. c) floats
10. a) add
11. d) shines
12. b) melts
13. d) don't get
14. c) put
15. b) goes off
16. a) is
17. a) drink
18. d) scratch
19. c) is
20. b) light



Explanations

1. “heat” (a)

In the zero conditional, both clauses use present simple. The subject 'you' takes the base form 'heat' (no -s).

2. “gets” (b)

'Ice' is third person singular, so we add -s: 'gets'. Zero conditional uses present simple in both clauses.

3. “don't get” (c)

'They' (plants) requires 'don't get'. Note the if-clause comes second here, so no comma is needed.

4. “throw” (d)

With 'you' as subject, use the base form 'throw'. This describes a general truth about gravity.

5. “drops” (b)

'It' is third person singular, so we use 'drops'. This is a scientific fact expressed with the zero conditional.

6. “expands” (d)

'Metal' is third person singular, so we use 'expands'. The result clause comes first here — no comma needed.

7. “mix” (a)

'You' takes the base form 'mix'. This zero conditional describes a general scientific fact.

8. “is” (c)

'A baby' is third person singular, so we use 'is'. This describes typical baby behaviour — a general truth.

9. “floats” (c)

'Wood' is third person singular → 'floats'. This states a scientific fact using the zero conditional.

10. “add” (a)

With 'you', use the base form 'add'. The zero conditional states this as a general chemical fact.

11. “shines” (d)

'The sun' is third person singular → 'shines'. This is a general truth about weather.

12. “melts” (b)

'Butter' is third person singular → 'melts'. The result clause comes before the if-clause here.

13. “don't get” (d)

'People' is plural → 'don't get'. The zero conditional can use negative forms in the if-clause.

14. “put” (c)

'You' takes the base form 'put'. This is a general fact about dissolving sugar.

15. “goes off” (b)

'The alarm' is third person singular → 'goes off'. This describes how a system always works.

16. “is” (a)

'A dog' is third person singular → 'is'. This describes typical dog behaviour.

17. “drink” (a)

'You' takes the base form 'drink'. This is a general truth about caffeine's effect.

18. “scratch” (d)

'Cats' is plural → 'scratch' (no -s). This describes typical cat behaviour as a general statement.

19. “is” (c)

'The teacher' is third person singular → 'is'. This describes a general routine or rule.

20. “light” (b)

'You' takes the base form 'light'. Zero conditional describes what always happens in this situation.