CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

The researcher carried out this research work on "The Conditional Sentences in English and Maithili Languages" which is a comparative study. In this research, the researcher aimed at finding out some fact about the processes of conditional sentences. Similarly, he also wanted to discover similarities and differences between conditional sentences in the Maithili language with those in the English language. Conditional sentences consist of two clauses, a subordinate clause and a main clause, and are therefore more complex syntactically than many other structures in English and Maithili languages.

1.1   General Background

Language is the most basic thing for human beings in their daily life. In the absence of language, one cannot lead one's life. Its history starts from the time when the human civilization prevailed on the earth and when they were in small group. From that time both human civilization and human language have been developing and changing continuously along with the time as it went to embracing ups and downs in itself. Language was being used at that time, too and is being used at present as well. If anything is changed in language of that time and of the present time, that is only its shapes and structures and nothing else. Similarly, there are some changes in human beings as well and that are their living styles and their cultures. Thus, language is as old as human race.

Here, we are not concerned with the history of language and human civilization. Our concern is to throw light on "What is language ?" Language is a social phenomenon which connects people to each other. In a layman sense, language is a means of communication, any system of communication can be called a language. If we speak and communicate something to each other, then that is verbal communication if we write and communicate, then written communication, if we use sign or gesture to communicate our feelings, ideas and thoughts, then that is called sign communication. From this, it is clear that

we can communicate in different ways. So, communication is a broad term which incorporates all sorts or modes of communication: verbal and non-verbal ones verbal communication is human language used only by human beings. It is thus called species specific language. On the other hand, non-verbal communication indicates all modes of communication except verbal mode of communication. To make it clear non-verbal communication includes sign language, birds' language, zoo communication, and so on.

What we examined that any system of communication can be called a language. But now-a-days these characteristics of language are concerned with the human being and his distinctive sounds which are used for communication. Language is a means of communication which is made up of sounds and symbols which are voluntarily produced by human being. Since it is made up of voluntarily produced sounds and symbols, it is string of sounds and symbols to express one's ideas, emotions, feelings and desires. That is way, we can say that language is a voluntary vocal system of human communication. However, human being can show instinctive quality like eye blinking, walking, eating, or even producing involuntary sounds. Here, we can quote Sapir (1971) in support that "language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of system of voluntarily produced symbols" (p. 8).

Similarly, Block and Trager (1942) define language as "a system of arbitrary vocal symbols by means of which a social group co-operates" (as cited in Lyons, 1981, p. 4). This definition corresponds to some extent to the above definition given by Sapir (1971).

In conclusion, on the basis of the above meantioned definitions, what we can say is that there are different modes of communications which are broadly categorized into two different ways: verbal and non-verbal communications. The purpose of division of different modes of communication into two different broad term is clarify that not all sorts of sounds and symbols, and

activities produced and performed by different things and even by human beings can be language. Language is only those sounds and symbols which are voluntarily produced by human beings and that conveys some messages to the listeners. This is called verbal language. The voluntarily produced sounds and symbols give a certain shape to language only when they are linked to make a string of them. And this string of sounds and symbols is used only by human beings in their daily life to share their emotions, feelings, desires, thoughts, etc. On the other hand, there are activities which are also used to convey some sorts of messages. These activities are known as sign language. The sign language refers to different gestures and postures such as eye winking, shaking and nodding head, waving hand in the air facile expressions, and so on. This is called non-verbal communication. Besides human activities, non-verbal communication also covers birds' language, zoo communication, and so on.

1.1.1   An Introduction to the English Language

The English language is a such language which is spoken all over the world. It is an international language. It has become an assistance to establish communication between two persons belonging to different linguistic background or to different countries. This characteristics has made it the most dominant language of the whole world. Since it is the most dominant language in the world, it is used as an official and semi-official language in over 60 countries and has become successful to get a prominent place in 20 countries. It is also the major language of books, newspapers, airports, international business, academic conferences, sciences, medicines, diplomacies and advertisings.

In division of the language spoken all round the world in terms of their family, the English language is one of the widely used west Germanic sub-branches of the Germanic branch of the Indo-European family. According to the population census of 2001, 19037 people speak English as a native language or mother tongue in Nepal. As a result, it stands in the sixty-fourth

position in Nepal on the basis of native speaker of it. That is why, it is extremely important in a country like Nepal. In Nepal, it is taught as a compulsory subject from primary level to graduate level. Teaching English in Nepal aims at making students able to communicate their ideas, feelings, emotions, beliefs, and thoughts in English with one another and with the people of other countries. Teaching English aims at developing four skills, viz. listening speaking, reading and writing. Learning languages is regarded as achieving skills that make students able to get their things done.

1.1.2   An Introduction to the Maithili Language

Maithili is one of the branches of New Indo-Aryan (NIA) language spoken in the two adjoining "South Asian Countries Nepal and India. Maithili, as its name implies, is the mother tongue of the inhabitants of Mithila, the pre-historic kingdom ruled by the then king Janak who was the father of the goddess Sita. However, modern Mithila is politically split into adjacent parts of the two different nations - Nepal and India and yet to exist as an inalienable cultural entity mainly owing to the proximity of regular interaction between the Maithili speaking community of the two nations.

This language is written in Devanagari script, at present, however, in the ancient time it was written in the Maithilakshar or Tirhut. It has a very long rich tradition of written literature in both countries Nepal and India. Vidyapati Thakur is the most celebrated poet of Mithila. He is an immortal singer of beauty youth and vigour. Maithili literature has a very long tradition of oral story telling. Some renowened story writers in Maithili literature as shree Krishna Thakur, Baidhyanath Mishra and Kali Kumar Das. Both Nepal and India literary writers have penned literary genres espcially poems, plays, and fictions in the Maithili language. In addition to writing literary genres, they are working in other fields as well like culture, history, journalism, linguistics, and so on.

The earliest grammar of Maithili by a native grammarian has been written by Jha (1946) in the Maithili language. In this study, the grammatical rules are presented in the forms of sutras in painian style of Sanskrit grammar. It was followed by Jha (1979) which attempts to analyze the language with modern linguistic insights.

1.1.3 Maithili: Its Speakers and Linguistic Boundaries

The language on which the researcher is going to have his research work is the Maithili language. "The Maithili langauge is spoken mainly in the eastern and northern regions of the state of Bihar in India and in the Terai districts of Nepal. According to some estimates (e.g. Davis, 1973, p. 3165; R. Yadav, 1984, p. 1). This language is spoken by a total of more than 21 million people in India and Nepal" Jha (1994). The areas in India where Maithili is being spoken are Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Vaishali, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Saharsha, Supaul, North Munger, North Dhagalpur and parts of Champaran and Purnea. Similarly in Nepal, it is in vogue in some districts of Nepal in the Terai. These districts are Rautahat, Sarlahi, Mathottari, Dhanusha, Sirha, Saptari and Morang. These geographical boudnaries include all those principal areas where the main concentration of the Maithili speaking population lies these days. According to the population census of 2001, 48.9 percent people speak the Nepali language and just after this, 12.40 percent people speak the Maithili language. Hence, the Maithili language is the second dominant language after Nepali, i.e. the national language of Nepal.

Actually, the exact dimensions of the area have been fluctuating from age to age. It has nevertheless managed to keep itself always distinguished in common parlance as a distinct "country" with its own traditions, its own poets, and its own pride in everything belonging to itself. Today this area is known as Tirhut or Mithila. But in the earliest known period of history it was called Videha and it included several kingdoms in it Mithila and Vaishali being the most important ones. To quote Grierson (1883, p. 16) "Maithili was originally the

langauge of the ancient Mithila, the kingdom of Janak, the father of Sita, which was bounded on the west by the river Gandak, on the Himalaya, Mountain, on the east by the river Gandak, on the north by the Ganges. It has, however, in later times been encroached upon by Bhojpuri on the west, and in revenge has itself crossed the Ganges and occupied North Patna and so much of Munger and Bhagalpur districts as lie to the north of that river. It has also crossed the Koshi and occupied purnea" (as cited in Jha, 1994: p. 4).

1.1.4 Grammar and its importance

To be full-fledged language and for its existence, grammar is a basic thing. As the selection of human being is a must for human body to stand, grammar is also the skeleton of all languages which are being used either in spoken form on in written form and is equally important for their further development and existence. The skeleton of languages is given flesh and blood by linguistic units, viz. sounds, morphemes, words etc. Grammar governs language. It means it is related to language which is a set of an infinite number of well formed sentences. Grammar is a set of structures of language on the basis of which different means the arrangement of elements in their relationship to each other. By 'structure of language' we mean the interrelationship of linguistic units such as sounds, morphemes, words, phrases and sentences at various levels, namely, phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic and discourse levels. It means grammar manipulates language in speech and writing correctly.

The role of grammar in a language cannot be devalued. Grammar is a theory of language that can be applied to individual language. The English grammar describes the form, function and meaning. Since grammar is meant for improving language, it is the most important part of language.

1.2   Statement of Problems

Languages have their own way of expressing factual implications or hypothetical situations and their consequences. They use a variety of conditional constructions and verb forms to form conditional sentences. Conditional sentence formation differs from one language to another. The problem of the study is to explore the similarities and differences between English and Maithili languages in terms of conditional sentence formation. The present study aims at answering the following questions:

i.   Is the pattern of Maithili conditional sentence formation equivalent to the English one ?

ii.   Does the difference in conditional sentence pattern of both languages bring meaning difference ?

1.3   Objective of the Study

The major objective of this study is to shed light on the conditional sentence formation in Maithili and English languages. The followings are the main objectives formulated for this study.

i.   To analyze the conditional sentence of the English language.

ii.   To analyze the conditional sentence of the Maithili language.

iii.   To find out the similarities and differences between English and Maithili in terms of conditional sentences.

iv.   To present some pedagogical implication.

1.4   Significance of the Study

i.   This is the first research on conditional sentences in the Maithili language in the Central Department of English, Kirtipur, Kathmandu. So, it will be invaluable for the department itself.

ii.   The study will be helpful for the prospective researchers in the Maithili language.

iii.   The study is equally significant for language planners, syllabus designers, textbook writers, students and teachers of language and linguistic and people who are interested in this field.

1.5   Literature Review

Various research works have already been conducted in different areas of grammar in the Central Department of English, Kirtipur, Kathmandu. However no one has attempted to carry out his/her research work on "The conditional sentences in English and Maithili languages: A Comparative study" up to now. That is why, the researcher has selected this very new topic for his research work. Before selecting this topic for research work, he went through different researches available to him. After that he reached the conclusion to select this topic.

Different researchers have found out different things in their different respective research works. Some of them which were pertinent to the researcher's present topic were consulted. Those research works with their findings are cited below:

"A Reference Grammar of Maithili" (1997) by Ramawatar Yadav describes, in detail, the rules and various particles such as case marked, plural marker, honorific marked, post-positions etc. in the Maithili language. In this book Yadav has talked of phonology, nominals, their inflections, adjectives, verbs, adverbs, pluralizations, sentence types etc. of the Maithili language.

Similarly, Michale Swan, in his book "Practical English Usage", very categorically deals with the conditional sentence formation in the English language by dividing the conditional sentence into three types: first conditional, e.g. if we play chess, I'll win, second conditional, e.g. If we played chess, I would win, and third conditional, e.g. If we had played chess, I would have won. He also deals with several other issues related with the conditional sentence formation under various topics in his above mentionaed book. A

University Grammar of English", by Randolph Quirk and Sidney Greenbaum also clarifies the issues related with the conditional sentence formation in the English language. Marianne Celce Murcia and Dinne Larsen Freeman, in their book "The Grammar Book", also deal with many issues related with the conditional sentence formation in the English language in a very clear-cut way.

1.6   Research Methodology

The researcher adopted the following methodologies to carry out the research.

1.6.1   Source of Data

In order to carry out this research, the researcher utilized both primary and secondary sources of data.

1.6.1.1 Primary Sources

The Maithili native speakers from Jijhaul VDCs of Siraha district were the primary sources from whom the researcher elicited the required data for the research.

1.6.1.2 Secondary Sources

In addition to the primary sources, the researcher made use of the secondary sources of data, viz books, theses, journals, periodicals, articles, reports and other materials which have close relevance with the present study.

1.6.2   Tools for Data Collection

In order to collect the data for the fulfillment of objectives, the researcher wrote the ways of talking the Maithili speakers (specially the people of Siraha). The ways consisted conditional sentences. In additon, as being a native speaker of the Maithili language, the researcher used his intuition as well.

1.6.3 Processes of Data Collection

For the primary data, the researcher consulted the Maithili speakers of Siraha dialect. After that he observed the ways of their speaking and then wrote them. And for the secondary data, he used the Central library, linguistics' Department's library and so on.

1.7 Limitations of the Study

The research which does not mean to be universal, becomes a matter of critique. Therefore, the present study is based on the certain materials, locality and restricted. As time as a result it does not cover the whole area of study. As the researcher himself comes from the Maithili community, he has used his own dialect of the Maithili language. Since the Maithili language covers the geographical area of Bihar, it has not covered the whole of area. Naturally, limitation becomes part of the research.

CHAPTER TWO

CONDITIONAL SENTENCES IN ENGLISH

2.1   Introduction

In grammar, conditional sentences are sentences discussing factual implications or hypothetical situations and their consequences. Languages use a variety of conditional constructions and verb forms to form these kinds of sentences. In a conditional sentence, there are two parts, (i) the condition or the antecedent = the protasis, and (2) the result = the apodosis. In general, I will refer to them simply as "P" and "Q", as the logician's tradition of representing material implication as "P" implies "Q". Most of the examples we consider will be of the form "if P, Q", but actually there are numerous ways of expressing the meanings that get expressed in English conditional sentences. Here are some examples:

i.   If it rains [condition], (then) the picnic will be concelled [result].

ii.   <u>If you come closer,</u>   <u>you will be able to see the parade</u>.
                    ↓   ↓
            "if P"   "Q"
        (Condition)   (Result)

Syntactically, the result is the main clause, and the condition is a subordinate clause. It is primarily the properties of the protasis (condition) (tense and degree of factualness), however, that determines the properties of the entire sentence. Conditional sentences consist of two clauses, a subordinate clause and a main clause, and are therefore more complex syntactically than many other structures. Moreover, the semantics of all the various types of conditional clauses are subtle and hard to understand even for native speakers.

A good grasp of the English tense aspect system as well as the modal auxiliaries and negation are essential before coping with the full range of conditional sentences in English.

Most grammar books tend to recognise four basic configurations of tenses in conditional sentences which vary in structure according to the time that we are talking about (past, present or future) and the meaning. These four types are normally referred to as the zero, first, second and third conditionals. We will look at the forms and meanings of each of these in turn and also examine some of the alternatives to these four basic types.

i.   **Zero-type conditionals:** The form of the zero conditional causes no problems because the present tenses are used in both clauses. e.g.

If clause	Main clause
If + present tense	Present tense

a.   If you heat water,   it boils

The zero conditional is normally used to talk about facts and to express general truths.

ii.   **First-type conditionals :** The basic form for this type of conditional sentence is different from that of the zero-type conditional because present tense is used in the 'if-clause' while 'future tense' is used in the main clause. e.g.

If clause	Main clause
If + present tense	Future tense

a.   If they don't arrive soon,   we will leave without them.

b.   If they are late,   I'm going to be angry.

This type refers to future possibilities that are certain or probable. That's why several reference grammars refer to the first-type conditional as "real"or "possible". The first-type conditional is also known as the future conditional.

iii. **Second-type conditionals:** This type is often called the hypothetical or unreal conditional since it is usually used to speculate about either very unlikely future situations or present and future impossibilities. The basic form of this type is as follows:

If clause	Main clause
If + past tense	Would + verb[1]

a. If I had time, I would drop you off at school.

b. If I had wings, I would fly.

iv. **Third-type conditions :** This type refers to hypothetical situations in the past. In this case we use the past perfect tenses in the if-clause and "would + have + v^3" in the main clause.

If clause	Main clause
If + past perfect tense	would have + past participle

a. If we had known about the storm, we would not have started our journey.

The main uses of the third conditional are for speculating about the past, expressing regrets, excusing our own actions and criticising others.

Several reference grammars refer to the first type conditional sentence as a "real" or "possible" conditional as opposed to the second and third-type conditional sentences, which refer to "the unreal/hypothetical" present and past, respectively.

The second-type conditional sentence is problematic for the students who have learned to associate past tense with past time. It is difficult for them to believe that sentences like "If I had the money, I would take a vacation.", refer to present and not past time. It is common to think of 'if' in English as a kind of conjunction, and to think of the meaning of a conditional sentence as a straightforward product of the meanings of its component clauses. In the simplest way of thinking of this, the truth of a conditional sentence is a product of the truth values of its individual clauses, according to a truth-table that holds the full sentence to be true unless the 'P' part is true while the 'Q' part is false.

2.2   Form of Conditionals: A Syntactic Analysis of Conditional Sentences

Marianne Celce-Murcia and Diane Larsen-Freeman, in their book "The Grammar Book", (1999:546) define conditional sentence as "a sentence that consists of a main clause and a sub-ordinate clause, the latter typically begins with the adverbial subordinator "if". We agree with Quirk and Greenbaum (1973:323) that conditional sentences express the dependence of one set of circumstances (i.e., the result clause) on another (i.e., the "if-clause"). The order of the two clauses is generally not that important to the meaning of the sentence, so we can switch the if-clause to the end of the sentence if we want to. For example:

i.   If I go, Bhola will go.

ii.   Bhola will go if I go.

In either order, the if-clause sets up the condition, and the main clause gives the result or outcome. The if-clause is treated as an adverbial clause of condition.

Let us analyse the above conditional sentence in its two different forms according to the phrase structure rules and mapping rules.

Bhola will go if I go.

```
                                    S
                   _____/ _____
                 SUBJ                              PRED
                  |                   _____/|_____
                  NP                AUX            VP              Advl
                  |                  |              |               |
                  N                  M              V             Adv cl
                  |                  |              |            ___/ \___
                Bhola              will            go        adv sub      S
                                                              |        __/ \__
                                                              if    SUBJ    PRED
                                                                     |    ___/|\___
                                                                     NP  AUX      VP
                                                                     |    |        |
                                                                    Pro   T        V
                                                                     |    |        |
                                                                     I   pres      go
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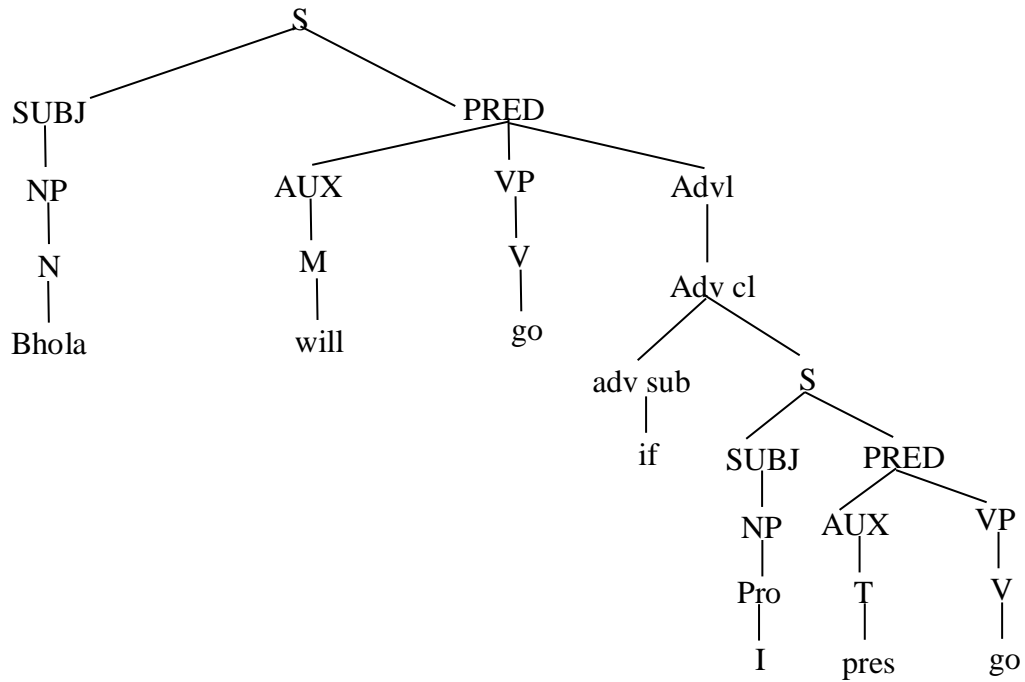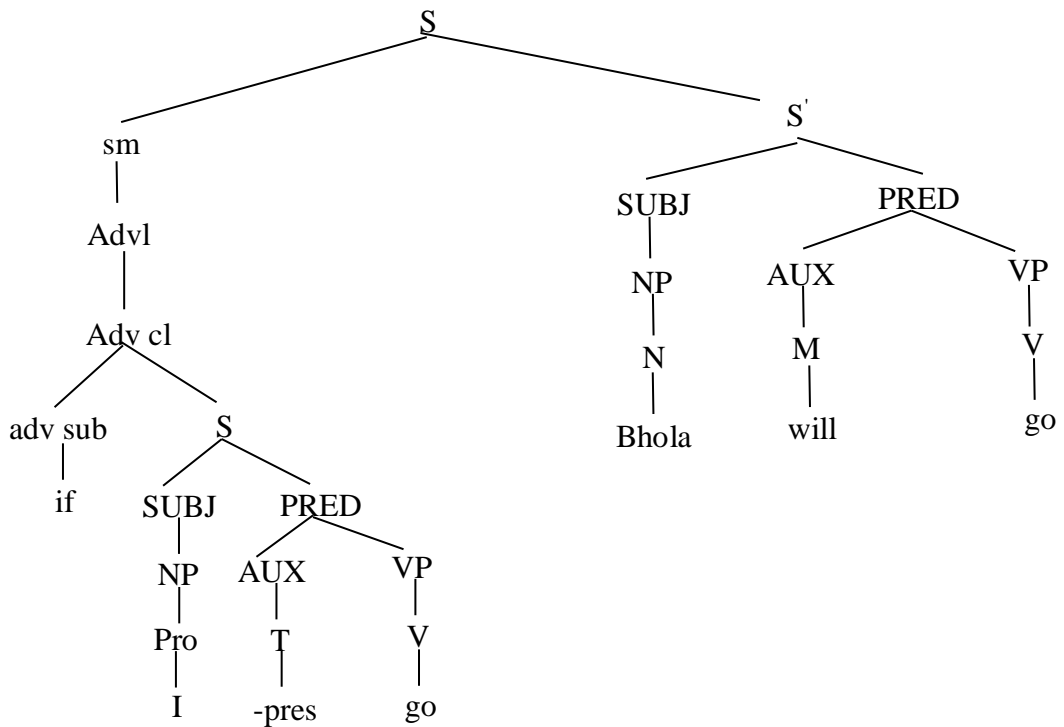
We generate the adverbial clause under the sentence modifier (sm) in order to account for the 'if-clause' in initial position.

If I go, Bhola will go.

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                                         S
                   _____/ _____
                 sm                                            S'
                  |                             _____/ _____
                Advl                          SUBJ                          PRED
                  |                             |               _____/ _____
                Adv cl                          NP            AUX                         VP
               __/ \__                          |              |                           |
          adv sub      S                        N              M                           V
            |       __/ \__                      |              |                           |
            if   SUBJ    PRED                  Bhola          will                         go
                  |    ___/|\___
                  NP  AUX      VP
                  |    |        |
                 Pro   T        V
                  |    |        |
                  I  -pres      go
```

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When the if-clause occurs in initial position, it is possible to optionally add 'then' before the main clause. e.g.
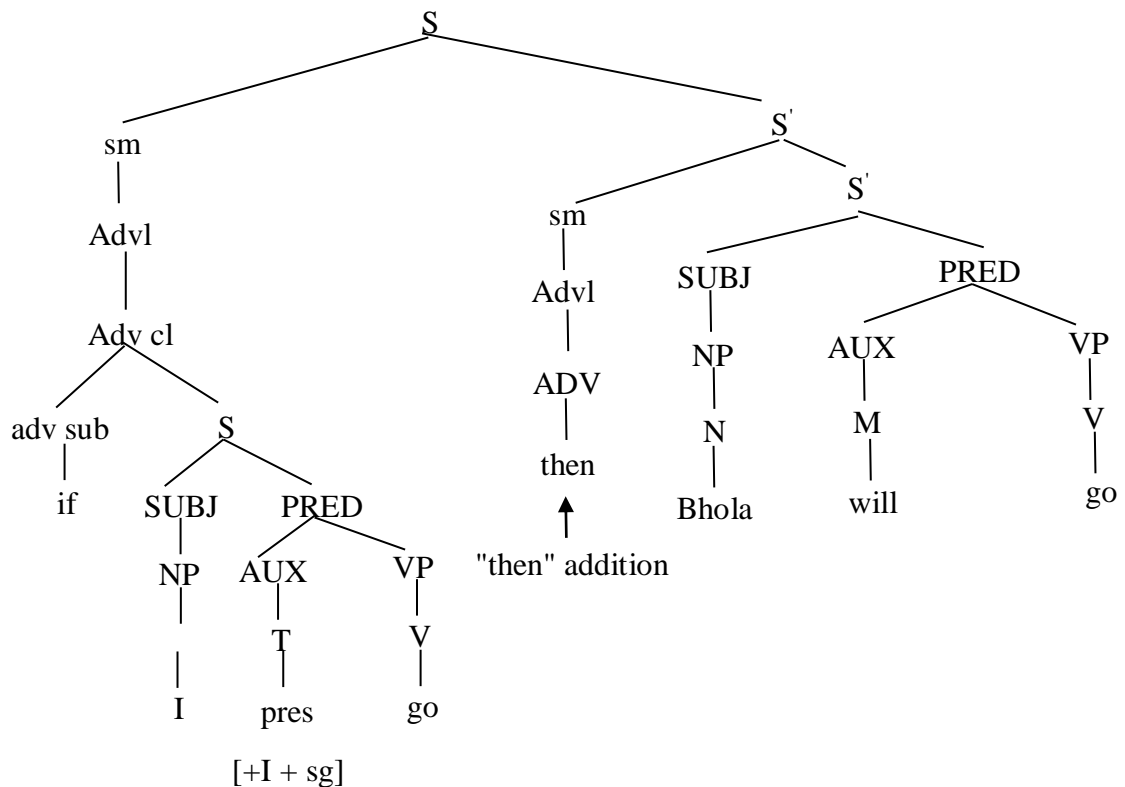
i.   If I go, then Bhola will go.

In such condition/case, we should apply the same phrase structure rules used above for the second tree diagram and the mapping rules would be as follows:

Out put: If I -pres go, Bhola will go.

Copy s/t : If I-pres [+I + sg] go, Bhola will go.

'then addition' : If I -pres [+I + sg] go, then Bhola will go.

Here it is to be noted that 'then' insertion is an optional rule that tends to be applied only if the conditional clause is generated in initial position, that is, the rule is much less likely to be applied when the "if" clause follows the main clause:

* Then Bhola will go if I go.

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2.2.1 Other syntactic Details

2.2.1.1 Subject/Operator Inversion in Conditionals

or

Omitting "if"

In hypothetical conditionals with initial 'if-clauses' containing certain auxiliary verbs such as 'had' or 'should', it is possible to delete the initial 'if', however, when such a deletion takes place, subject/operator must follow:

i.   If I had known that, I wouldn't have said anything.

ii.   Had I known that, I wouldn't have said anything.

iii.   If the guests should arrive early, no one will be here to greet them.

iv.   Should the guests arrive early, no one will be here to greet them.

v.   Had I known, ... (instead of: If I had known, ...)

vi.   Were you my daughter, ... (instead of: If you were my daughter, ...)

vii.   Should you need my advice, ... (instead of : If you should need my advice, ...)

2.2.1.2 Conditional Clause Pro-forms

As Halliday and Hasan (1976) have pointed out, certain pro-forms can be used to replace the entire conditional clause following "if": "so" is used if the clause is affirmative, "not" is used if the clause is negative.

Would you like to make a class presentation ?

If so, volunteer.

If not, you don't have to.

2.2.1.3 Replacing 'if'

'If' can be replaced by words or expressions with a similar meaning. The most common are:

as long as

assuming (that)

on condition (that)

on the assumption (that)

provided (that)

unless

with the condition (that)

whether

suppose

even if

but for

otherwise.

2.2.1.4 'If' vs 'When'

'If' and 'When' are interchangeable when the statement of the conditional clause is sure (also known as zero-conditional).

i.   If you heat ice, it melts.

ii.   When you heat ice, it melts.

'If' is used for something that, according to the speaker, might happen.

e.g.:-

iii.   We can spend the afternoon on the beach <u>if </u>the weather is fine.

'When' is used for something that, according to the speaker, will happen.

e.g.

iv.   I will clean up the kitchen right away <u>when</u> I'm back from work.

2.2.1.5 'In Case' vs 'If'

'In case of' can be used to shorten an 'if-clause' as shown below:

i.   If there is a fire, leave the room.

ii.   In case of fire, leave the room.

While 'if' expresses a condition, 'in case' is used to express a possibility.

a.   I need painkillers <u>if</u> I'm in severe pain. (Condition)

b.   I need painkillers in case I'm in severe pain. (Possibility)

The expression 'Just in case' is used pretty much the same way.

c.   I got you a pizza 'just in case' you were hungry. (I don't know whether you are hungry.)

2.3   Classification or Kinds of Conditional Sentences

Most of the traditional grammars have classified conditional sentences into three groups or types. Birendra Ojha has talked about three kinds of conditionals: First conditional, second conditional and third conditional in his book O.K. English Grammar and Composition" (2001:176). Similarly, Choodamani Gautam, in his book Higher Level English Grammar, Composition and Pronunciation (2005:200), has also talked about three kinds of conditional sentences: conditional sentences type 1 probable; conditional sentences type 2: hypothetical but possible; and conditional sentences type 3: hypothetical but impossible. Ojha and Gautam seem to have agreed about the kinds of conditional sentences. They have talked about three kinds of conditional sentences only. On the contrary, most grammar books tend to recognize four basic configurations of tense in conditional sentences which vary in structure according to the time that we are talking about (past, present or future) and the meaning. These four types are normally referred to as the zero, first, second and third conditionals, we will look at the forms and meanings of each of these in turn and also examine some of the alternatives to these four basic types.
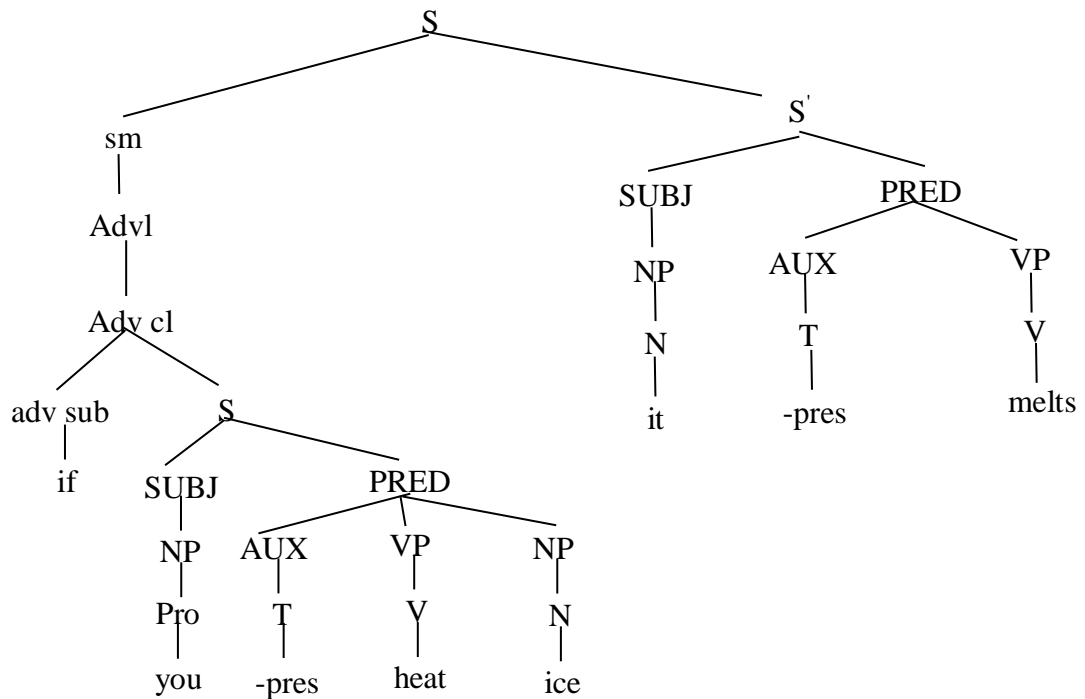
a.   Zero - type Conditionals: Certainty

The form of the zero-conditional causes no problems because the present tenses are used in both clauses. We use the so-called zero conditional when the result of the condition is always true, like a scientific fact. e.g.

If	Condition	Result
	Present simple	Present simple
If	you heat ice ,	it melts.

Let us analyse the above example using phrase structure rules and mapping rules.

If you heat ice, it melts.

```
                                      S
                  ┌───────────────────┴──────────────┐
                 sm                                   S'
                  │                        ┌──────────┴──────────┐
                Advl                      SUBJ                  PRED
                  │                        │              ┌──────┴──────┐
               Adv cl                      NP            AUX            VP
             ┌────┴────┐                   │             │             │
          adv sub      S                   N             T             V
             │     ┌───┴────┐              │             │             │
             if  SUBJ      PRED            it          -pres         melts
             │    │    ┌────┼────┐
            NP   AUX  VP   NP
             │    │    │    │
            Pro   T    V    N
             │    │    │    │
            you -pres heat ice
```

The zero conditional is normally used to talk about facts and to express general truths. In the zero-type conditional it is to be noticed that we are thinking about a result that is always true for this condition. The result of the condition is an absolute certainty. We are not thinking about the future or the past, or even the present. We are thinking about a simple fact. We use the present simple tense to talk about the condition. We also use the present simple tense to talk about the result. The important thing about the zero-conditional is that the condition always has the same result.

Let us look at some more examples in the table below:

| If	Condition	Result
	Present simple	Present simple
If	I miss the 8 o' clock bus,	I am late for work.
If	I am late for work,	my boss gets angry.
If	people don't eat,	they get hungry.
If	you heat ice,	it melts.

b.   **First Conditional: real possibility, probable/open condition**

We use the first type conditional to talk about future events that are likely to happen. This type refers to future possibilities that are certain or probable. e.g.

i.   If I go, Rina will go.

Let us analyse the above example using the phrase structure rules and mapping rules.

If I go, Rina will go.
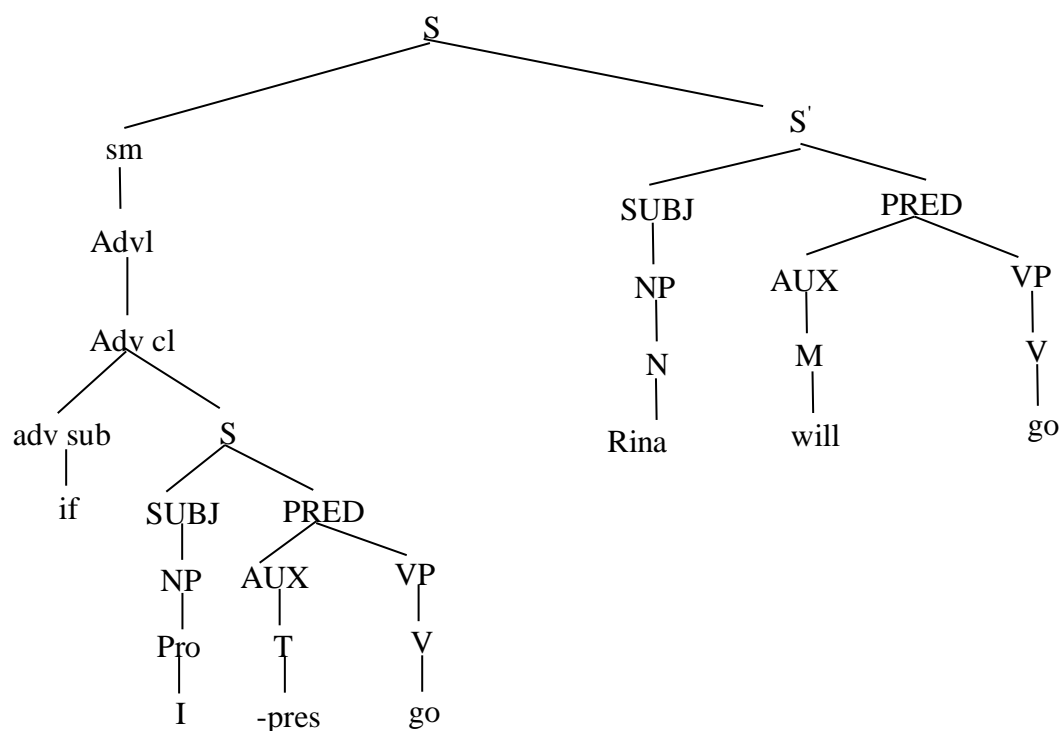
In the first conditional, the 'if' clause can be used with different present forms. e.g.

i.   If I go, Bhola will go

ii.   If he is feeling better, he will come.

iii. If she has not heard the bad news yet, I'll tell her.

Similarly, the "future clause" or the 'main clause' can contain 'going to' or the "future perfect" as well as "will". e.g.

iv.   If I see him, I am going to tell him exactly how angry I am.

v.   If we don't get the contract, we will have wasted a lot of time and money.

When we use the first type conditional, we talk about the future. We are thinking about a particular condition or situation in the future, and the result of this condition. There is a real possibility that this condition will happen. For example,

If	Condition	Result
	Present simple	will + base verb
If	it rains,	I will stay at home.

In the first type conditional, it is to be noticed that we are thinking about a future condition. It is not raining yet. But the sky is cloudy and we think that it could rain. We use the present simple tense to talk about the possible future condition. We use "Will + base verb to talk about the possible future result. The important thing about the first conditional is that there is a real possibility that the condition will happen. Here are some more examples in the table below:

If	Condition	Result
	Present simple	will + base verb
If	I see Mary,	I will tell her.
If	Tara is free tomorrow,	he will invite her.
If	they do not pass their exam,	their teacher will be sad.
If	it rains tomorrow,	you will stay at home.
If	it rains tomorrow,	what will you do ?

Now, let us look at the tense sequences in the first type conditional

sentences.

Tense Sequence:

| Forms	If Clause [C.C]	Main Clause [M.C]	Sense
Basic form	* Present (If it rains)	* Future/Imperative Clause (I shall stay/stay here)	Probable/ condition
Substitutional Form -[A]	*Present (If it rains)	* May/Might (the match may/might be postponed)	Possibility
S.F. - [B]	*Present (If you have done this work)	* May/Can (you may/can go)	Permission
S.F. -[C]	* Present (If it stops thundering)	* Can (We can go out)	Permission/ability
S.F. - [D]	* Present (If you want to lose weight)	* Must/should -you must/should eat less bread) - you had better eat less bread. - eat less bread	Command/request/advice
S.F. -[E]	* Present $(V^1/V^5$/is/am/are) (If you boil water)	*/ Present (V^1/V^5) (it turns to vapour)	Cause and effect (automatic/habitual action)

Now, let us look at some more possible structures of the first type

conditional sentences:

If Clause	Main Clause
i. S + V^1/V^5/is am/are + ...	i. S+V^1/V^5 +.............. * V^1 + ... (imperative clause)
ii. S + V^1/V^5/has/have+	ii. S + shall/will may/can/must/might/ should + V^1 ..... * V^1 + ...
iii. S + is/am/are/+v^4+...... ("Used to express present action/future arrangement.")	iii. S + shall/will/may/can/might/must/ should + V^1 .... * V^1 + ...
iv. S+has/have+v^3+........ (used to express present action/future arrangement)	iv. S+shall/well/may/can/might/must/should + V^1 * V1 + ...

c. Second Conditional : Unreal possibility or dream/improbable/ hypothetical

This type is often called the hypothetical or unreal future conditional since it is usually used to speculate about either very unlikely future situations or present and future impossibilities. e.g.

If I went, Bhola would go.
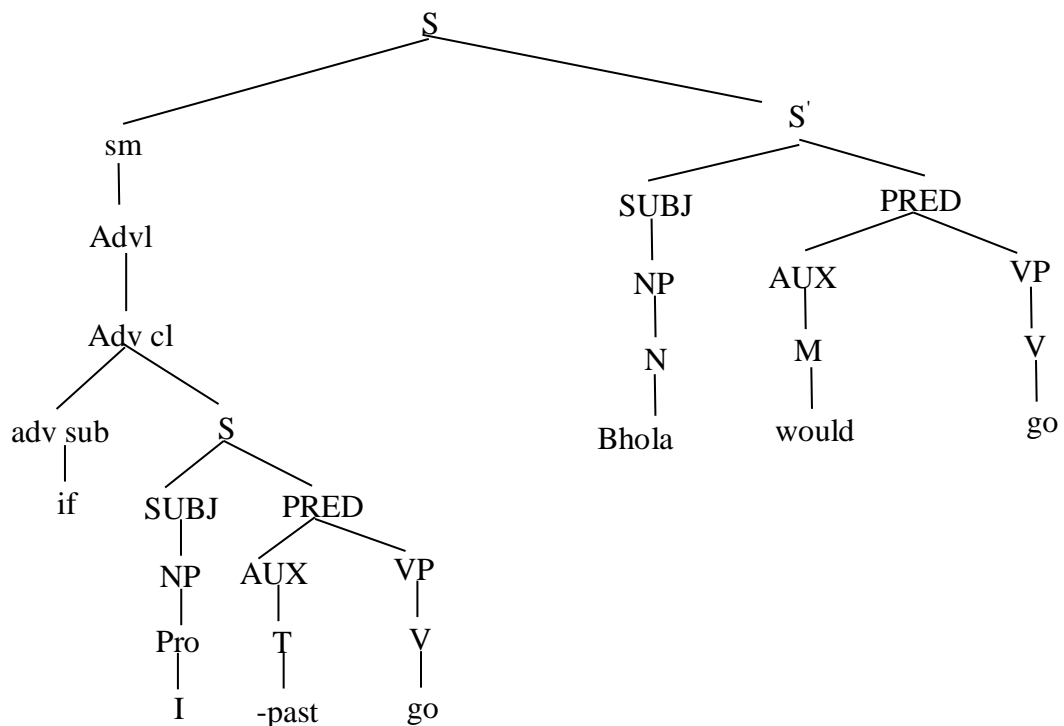
We can use the second conditonal to talk about 'impossible' situations. It is to be noticed that after I/he/she/it, we often use the subjunctive form 'were' and not 'was'. Some grammarians think that 'were' is the only correct form but other grammarians think 'was' is equally correct'. e.g.

i.   If I were a bird, I would fly in the sky.

ii.   If she were really happy in her job, she'd be working much harder.

It is also to be noticed that the form "if I were you" is often used to give advice. e.g.

iii.   If I were you, I'd change my job.

iv.   If I were you, I'd do the work well.

The second conditional is like the first conditonal. We are still thinking about the future. We are thinking about a particular condition in the future, and the result of this condition. But there is not a real possibility that this condition will happen. e.g.

If	Condition	Result
	Past Simple	Would + base verb
If	I won the lottery	I would buy a car.

In the second conditional, what is to be noticed is that we are thinking about a future condition. We use the past simple tense to talk about the future condition. We use "would + base verb" to talk about the future result. The important thing about the second conditional is that there is an unreal possibility that the condition will happen. Here are some more examples:

IF	Condition	Result
	Past Simple	Would + base Verb
If	I married Paro	I would be happy.
If	Bal Ram became rich	he would marry Paro.
If	it snowed next July	would you be surprised ?
If	it snowed next July	what would you do ?

Result	If	Condition
Would + base verb		Past simple
I would be happy	if	I married Paro.
Paro would marry Bal Ram	if	he became rich.
Would you be surprised	if	it snowed next July ?
What would you do	if	it snowed next July ?

Tense sequences in the second conditionals are as follows:

Forms	If-clause	Main clause	Sense
Basic form	* Past Tense (If I had money)	* Conditional Tense (I would buy watch)	Improbable/ hypothetical condition
Substitutional form	[A] past (V^2/ were) (If you tried again)	* Should/would/could/ might (You would/might succeed)	Improbable /hypothetical condition
S.F.	[B] past (V^2) (If anyone interrupted him)	* Past (V^2) (he got angry)	automatic/habitual action

Now, let us look at some more possible structures of the second

conditional sentences:

If Clause	Main Clause
i. S + V^2/had+	i. S+should /would/could/might + V^1 +.......
i. S + were + ...	ii. S + should/would/could/might + V^1 + ...
iii. S + V^2 + ...	iii. S + V^2 + ...
iv. S + was/were + V^4+......	iv. S + modals + V^1 +
v. S+had + v^3+........	v. S + modals + V^1/be +
vi. S + would + V^1/be + ...	vi. S + would + V^1 +

d.   Third conditional : no possibility / unfulfilled Condition

This type refers to hypothetical situation in the past. In this case we use the 'Past perfect tense' in the if-clause and 'would + have' in the main clause. We can use the third conditional to talk about 'impossible' conditions, impossible because they are in the past and we cannot change what has happened. e.g.

i.   If I had known about his condition, I would have phoned for you earlier.

ii.   If we had known about the storm, we wouldn't have started our journey.

The main uses of the third conditional are for speculating about the past, expressing regrets, excusing our own actions and criticising others.

The phrase structure rules and the mapping rules can also be useful for analysing the third conditionals. Let us apply them in the following example:

If I had gone, Bhola would have gone.

```
                              S
              _____|_____
            sm                                 S'
             |                        _____|_____
           Advl                    SUBJ              PRED
             |                       |          _____|_____
          Adv cl                    NP        AUX            VP
          ___|___                    |      ___|___           |
       adv sub    S                  N     M    Perf          V
          |    ___|___               |     |     |            |
          if SUBJ   PRED           Bhola would  have  been   go
              |   ____|____
             NP AUX       VP
              |   |        |
            Pro   T  Perf  V
              |   |        |
              I  past have been  go
                 perfect
```
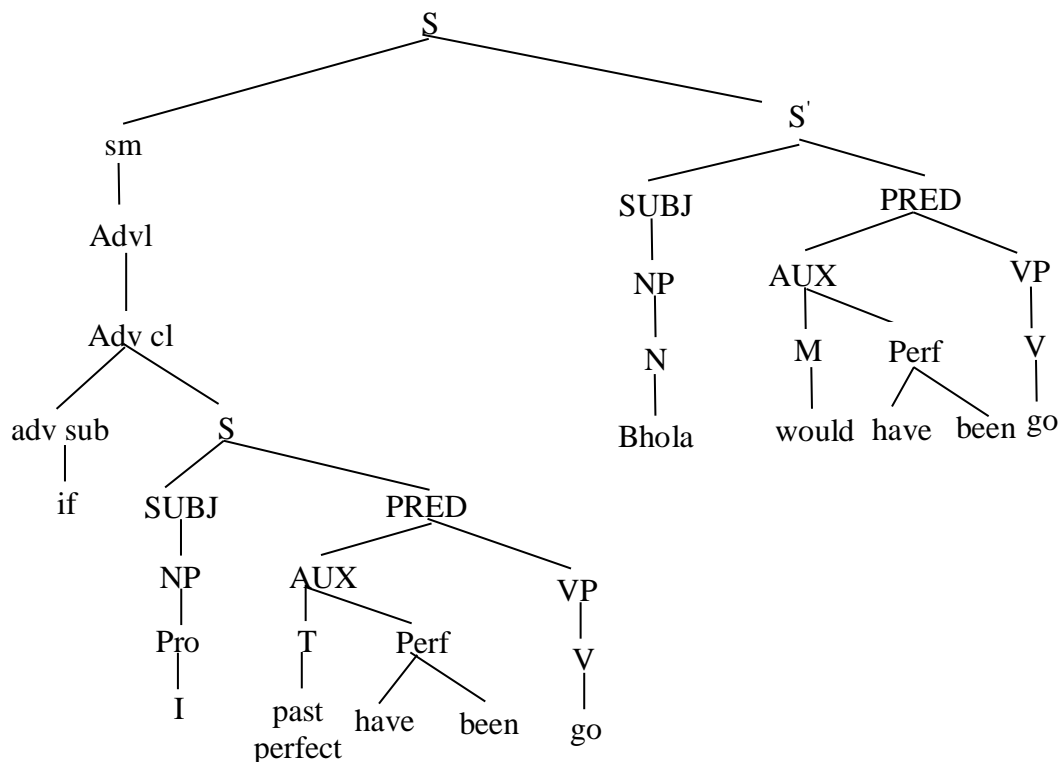
The first conditional and second conditionals talk about the future. With the third conditional, we talk about the past. We talk about a condition in the past that did not happen. That is why there is no possibility for this condition. The third conditional is also like a dream, but with no possibility of the dream coming true. For example,

iii.   If I had won the lottery, I would have bought a car.

When we use the third conditional, we talk about an impossible past condition. The speaker in the above example did not win the lottery. So the condition was not true, and that particular condition can never be true because it is finished. We use the past perfect tense to talk about the impossible past condition. We use "would have + past participle" to talk about the impossible past result. The important thing about the third conditional is that both the condition and result are impossible now. Here are some more examples of the third conditionals in the table below:

IF	Condition	Result
	Past Perfect	would have + past participle
If	I had seen Paro	I would have told her.
If	Kriti had been free yesterday	I would have invited her
If	they did not pass their exam	their teacher would have been sad
If	it had rained yesterday	would you have stayed at home ?

Result	If	Condition
would have + past participle	if	Past Perfect
I would have told her	if	I had seen paro
I would have invited her	if	Kriti had been free yesterday
Their teacher would have been sad	if	they had not passed their exam
Would you have stayed at home	if	it had rained yesterday ?

The tense sequences in the third conditionals are as follows:

Forms	If-clause	Main clause	Sense
Basic form	* Past perfect (If you had called me)	* Perfect Conditional (I would have helped you)	Impossible condition
Substitutional form	[A] past perfect (had + V^3)	* Should/would/could/ might /must+have+V^3	Impossible condition
S.F.	[B] past perfect (had + V^3) (If she had not come)	* Perfect continuous (modals+have+been+V^4) (I would have been waiting for her)	Impossible condition
S.F	[C] past perfect continuous (had + been + V^4)	* perfect continuous (modals+have+been+V^4)	Impossible condition

Some other possible structures of the third conditionals are as follows:

If Clause	Main Clause
i. S + had + V^3+ .... e.g. (If you had worked hard)	i. S+should /would/could/might/must+ have + V^3 +....... (you would have got good marks)
ii. S + had + V^3+ .... (If he hadn't called me)	ii. S + should/would/could/might/must + have + been + V^4+ .... (I would have been staying there)
iii. S + had + been + V^4 + ... (If you had not been wearing gloves)	iii. S + should/would/could/might/must + have+ been + V^3 + ... (your fingers would have been seriously hurt)

2.3.1 Conditionals: Summary

Here is a chart to help us to visualize the basic English conditionals. We should not take the (50%) and (10%) figures too literally. They are just to help us.

Probability		Conditional	Example	Time
100 %	▬▬▬▬	Zero-conditional	If you heat ice, it melts.	Anytime
50%	▬▬	First -conditional	If it rains, I will stay at home.	Future
10%	▬	Second-conditional	If I won the lottery, I would buy a car.	Future
0%		Third-conditional	If I had won the lottery, I would have bought a car.	Past

2.3.2 Conditional Sentences: Real and Unreal

English conditional sentences can be divided into two broad classes, depending on the form of the verb in the condition (protasis). The terms 'real' and 'unreal' broadly correspond to the notions of realis and irrealis modality. The examples of real and unreal conditionals are as follows:

Real conditionals:-

If I have money, I spend It.	Present real conditional
If I had money, I spent it.	Past Real conditional
If I have money, I will/am going to spend it.	Future Real conditional

Unreal Conditionals:

If I had had money, I would have spent it.	Past unreal conditonal
If I had money, I would spend it. (I think about spending the money today)	Present unreal conditional
If I had money, I would spend it.	Future unreal conditional

So far as the conditional sentence formation in Maithili language is concerned, it is a less researched area of study where we find the lack of adequate syntactic structures to form the conditional sentences to express the hypothetical situations and their consequences.

a.   Real Conditionals

In real conditional sentences, the condition clause expresses a condition the truth of which is unverified. The verb in the condition clause is in the past tense or in the present tense. The result clause can be in the past, present or

future. Generally, conditional sentences of this group are in two groups, the 'zero' conditional and the potential or indicative conditional. This class includes universal statements and predictions.

i.   The 'Zero' conditional is formed with both clauses in the present tense. This construction is similar across many languages. It is used to express a certainty, a universal statement, a law of science, etc. e.g.

a.   If you heat water to 100 degrees celsius, it boils.

b.   If you don't eat for a long time, you become hungry.

c.   If the sea is stormy, the waves are high.

ii.   The potential or indicative conditional is used more generally to express a hypothetical condition that is potentially true, but not yet verified. The conditional clause is in the present or past tense and refers to a state or event in the past. The result can be in the past, present, or future. e.g.

d   If she took that flight yesterday, she arrived at 10 pm.

e.   If she took that flight yesterday, she is somewhere in town today.

f.   If she took that flight yesterday, we will see her tomorrow.

g.   If I become President, I will lower taxes.

h.   If it rains this afternoon, your garden party is doomed.

b.   Unreal Conditionals

In unreal conditional sentence, the condition clause expresses a condition that is known to be false, or presented as unlikely. The result clause contains a conditional verb form consisting of would plus an infinitival main verb. The contrary - to - fact present conditional (sometimes referred to as the second' conditional) is used to refer to a current state or event that is known to be false or improbable. The past subjunctive must be used. e.g.

i.   If she were at work today, she would know how to deal with this client.

ii.   If I were king, I could have you thrown in the dungeon.

iii.   If I won the lottery, I would buy a car.

iv.   If he said that to me, I would run away.

2.4   The Meaning of Conditional Sentences: A Semantic Overview

Eve Sweetser, in "From Etymology to Pragmatics," has classified conditional semantics according to three domains. She speaks in that book, the content domain, the epistemic domain, and the speech act domain. Content based conditionals are understood by relating the content of the two clauses to each other. A typcial way in which content conditionals can be understood is for the "P" clause (the conditional/'if'-clause) to identify a situation which causes or automatically results in the state of affairs signalled by the "Q" clause (the result/main clause). This is the case for:

i.   If you drop it, it will break.

ii.   If you say that again, I will slap you.

iii.   If it rains, we will cancel the picnic.

Epistemic conditionals are understood as expressions of the reasoning process. If the state of affairs represented by the 'P' clause (if - clause) turns out to be true, then we are licensed to believe what we are told in the 'Q' clause (the main clause). e.g.

iv.   If their lights are on, Wilson's away from their vacation.

v.   If the streets are wet, it rained last night.

v.   If she wins, she has been practicing in secret.

And speech act conditionals are understood as pre-posing to a speech act a 'P' clause (the if-clause) that identifies the situation which got the speaker to provide the speech act. e.g. ;

vii.   If you are hungry, I could find something for you in the fridge.

viii.   If you leave before I see you again, have a good time.

ix.   If what I said offended you, I apologize.

English conditional sentences express three different kinds of semantic relationships:

i.   factual conditional relationships,

ii.   future or predictive conditional relationships, and

iii.   imaginative conditional relationships

Murcia and Freeman: "The Grammar Book" (1999:548)

A Semantic Hierarchy of Conditional Sentence Types:
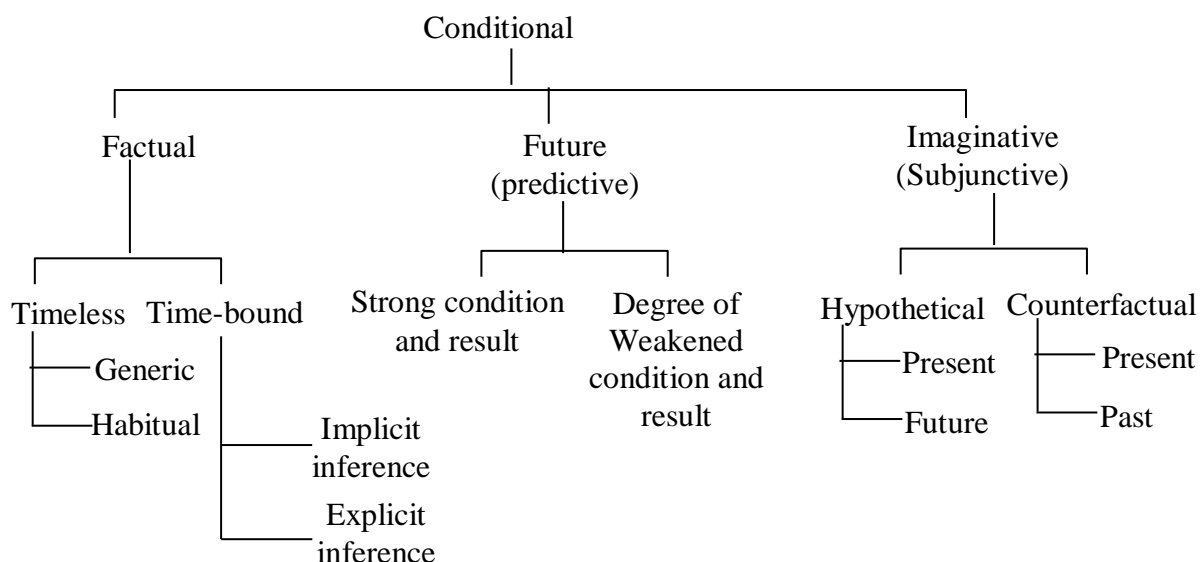
2.4.1 Factual Conditional Sentences

Factual conditional sentences are of high frequency in everyday English, and they include four types:

i. Generic factual conditionals,

ii. Habitual factual conditionals,

iii. Implicit inference conditionals, and

iv. Explicit inference conditionals.

Now, let us discuss each of these types in turn.

2.4.1.1 Generic factual conditionals,

These conditionals express relationships that are true and unchanging. For example:

i. If oil is mixed with water, it floats.

ii. If you boil water, it vaporizes.

Because of their unchanging truth value, these conditionals normally take a simple present tense in both clauses. They are especially frequent in scientific writing, since the sciences are often concerned with such absolute relationship.

2.4.1.2 Habitual factual conditionals:

These conditionals resemble generic factuals in that they also express a relationship that is not bounded in time, however, the relationship is based on habit instead of physical law. The conditionals express either past or present relationships that are typically or habitually true. For example:

iii. Present : If I wash the dishes, Sally dries them.

iv. Past : If Nancy said, "Jump!", Bob jumped.

In habitual factual conditionals, both clauses usually have the same tense: simple present tense in both clauses if the habitual relationship refers to the extended present time; simple past in both clauses if the sentence refers to a past habit.

2.4.1.3 Implicit inference conditionals:

Implicit inference conditionals express inferences about specific time bound relationships. They make use of a much wider range of tense and aspect markers, and they also occur with certain modal auxiliaries. Schachter (1971:70) provides some examples of implicit inference conditionals:

v.   If smog can be licked in L.A., it can be licked anywhere.

vi.   If there was a happy man in the world that night, it was Bal Krishna.

These conditionals, like their habitual counterparts, are conversational in flavor, and like generic and habitual factuals, implicit inference factuals tend to maintain the same tense and aspect or the same modal in both clauses - even though they make use of a much wider range of tenses and auxiliary verbs. However, implicit inference factuals differ from generic and habitual factuals in that 'When' or 'Whenever' cannot substitute for 'if' without changing the meaning and often making the sentence ungrammatical or, nonsensical.

vii.   ? When (ever) it's Tuesday, it's Kausal's birthday.

2.4.1.4 Explicit inference factual conditionals:

In explicit inference factual conditionals, there is no strict parallelism of tense, aspect, or modal in both clauses. This is because the conditional (the 'if' clause) is used as the basis for making an explicit inference; the result clause thus contains an inferential modal typically 'must' or 'should':

viii. If someone is at the door, it must be Diyesh.

ix.   If anyone has the answer, it should be Chandan.

2.4.2 Future or Predictive Conditional Sentences

Future conditional sentences refer to the sentences that have strong condition and result, and they also refer to the conditionals having degrees of weakened condition or result.

The conditionals that have strong condition and result can be understood with the help of following example:

i.   If it rains, I will stay home.

Such sentences express future plans or contingencies. The normal pattern for these types of conditional is simple present tense in the 'if' clause and some explicit indication of future time in the result clause:

ii.   If Ram comes to class, he will get the answer to the quiz.

iii.   If you finish your vegetables, I am going to buy you an ice cream cone.

The above examples reflect the only type of future conditional. However, sometimes, the future outcome expressed in the result clause is not sufficiently certain to warrant use of "will or be going to", in which case a weaker modal of prediction such as "many or should" can be used:

iv.   If you finish your vegetables, I may buy you an ice cream cone.

v.   If Ram comes to class, he should get the answers to the quiz.

2.4.3 Imaginative Conditional Sentences

The imaginative conditional sentences are perhaps the most problematic of the three main types of the conditionals, the other two being factual conditional sentences and future or predictive conditional sentences. There are two subtypes of imaginative conditionals:

i.   Hypothetical, and

ii.   Counterfactuals.

2.4.3.1Hypothetical Conditionals

These conditionals express what the speaker perceives to be unlikely yet possible events or states in the 'if' clause":

i.   If Ram had the time, he would go to Mexico. (Present hypothetical)

The 'if' clause is not strongly negated here. There is an outside chance that Ram has (or will have) the time.

2.4.3.2 Counterfactuals Conditionals

These conditionals express impossible events or states in the 'if' clause:

ii.   If my grandmother were alive today, she would experience a very

different world. (present counterfactual)

The 'if' clause is strongly negated (i.e. my grandmother is not alive today nor will she be alive in the future). Counterfactual conditionals refer to impossibilities with reference to the present or the past:

iii.   Present : If my grandmother were alive today, she would experience a

very different world.

iv.   Past: If my grandmother had still been alive in 2008, she would have

been 100 years old.

The problem with imaginative conditionals arises in the tense used. The past tense refers to the present time, and the past perfect tense refers to the past time.

2.4.4 Summary

The semantic description of conditional sentence types with the addition of verb forms can be summarized as follows:

			Generic	If + simple present, simple present
C O N D I T I O N A L S	Factual	Timeless	Habitual:	$\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{If} + \text{simple present, simple present} \\ \text{If} + \text{simple past, simple past} \end{array}\right\}$
		Time-bound	Implicit inference :	If + TAM*x, TAMx
			Explicit Inference:	If + TAM, $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{Must} \\ \text{Shuld} \end{array}\right\}$ VP
	Future (Predictive)	Strong Condition and Result		If $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{will} \\ \text{be going to} \end{array}\right\}$, simple present
		Weakened condition and/or result:		if $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{should} \\ \text{happen(s) to} \\ \text{should happen to} \end{array}\right\}$ VP, $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{should} \\ \text{may} \\ \text{might} \end{array}\right\}$ VP
	Imaginative	Hypothetical	Future:	if $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{were to V} \\ \text{V} + \text{Simple past} \end{array}\right\}$, would
			Present:	if $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{Simple past} \\ \text{Present subjunctiv e} \end{array}\right\}$, would
		Counterfactual	Present:	if $\left\{\begin{array}{l} \text{Simple past} \\ \text{Preent subjunctiv e} \end{array}\right\}$, would
			Past :	if + past perfect, would have V + -en

* TAM = any possible combination of tense, aspect, modals, and phrasal modals.

2.5   Some other meaning distinctions: Conditional and related

connectors

2.5.1 Only If and Unless

Let us look at the following sets of sentences and see what difference in meaning 'Only if' and 'unless' bring when they replace the adverbial subordinator 'if'.

i.   I will stay at home <u>if</u> it rains.

ii.   I will stay home <u>only if</u> it rains.

iii.   Don't apply for the job <u>if </u>you don't have an M.A.

iv.   Don't apply for the job <u>unless </u>you have an M.A.

Both "Only if" and "unless" mark conditions that are exclusive, that is, no other condition will bring about the stated result. 'If' and 'if ... not', on the other hand, express weaker or more neutral conditions in that they do not exclude the possibility that other conditions might also bring about the same result. Thus, we have the following semantic relationships expressed by conditional adverbial subordinators in English.

	Affirmative	Negative
Open (unmarked) conditions	If	if .... not
Exclusive (marked) Conditions	Only if (sometimes: if and only if)	Unless (= except if)

2.5.2 "Even Though and Even If"

v.   You should visit Vienna <u>even though</u> it is expensive.

vi.   You should visit Vienna <u>even if</u> it is expensive.

When we consider and compare the above sentences, we find that in the first sentence the speaker knows that Vienna is expensive but advises that the addressee visit it despite the cost. In the second sentence the speaker does not know definitely whether or not Vienna is expensive - there is a possibility that Vienna is expensive - but in any event, the advice is to visit the city.

2.5.3 "Whether ... or not"

The adverbial subordinators indicate that the condition is unmarked, exclusive, emphatic, negative, or exclusive and negative.

vii.   I will stay home if it rains. (Unmarked)

viii.   I will stay home only if it rains. (exclusive)

ix.   I will stay home even if it rains. (emphatic)

x.   I will stay home if it does not rain. (negative)

xi.   I will stay home unless it rains. (exclusive negative)

English has yet another adverbial subordinator, "Whether .... or not", which indicates that the condition can be explicitly eliminated from playing any role in determining the outcome expressed in the result clause. Thus we can refer to such cases as irrelevant conditions:

xii.   I will stay home <u>whether or not</u> it rains.

2.5.4 Related Verbs : hope and wish

The verb 'hope' is similar to future or predictive conditionals in the the same clauses that follow 'hope' can also function either as the 'if' clause or the result clause of a future conditional. For example :

I hope (that)	$\begin{cases} \text{John finishes his work.} \\ \text{John will come.} \end{cases}$

If John finishes his work, he will come.

Both of these sentences imply that it is possible that John will finish his work and that he will come.

On the other hand, the verb "wish" is similar to counterfactual conditionals in that the same clauses that follow 'wish' can also function either as the 'if' clause or the result clause of a counterfactual conditional:

I wish (that)	$\begin{cases} \text{John had finished his work.} \\ \text{John could have come.} \end{cases}$

If John had finished his work, he could have come.

In both sentences we know that John didn't finish his work and he did not come.

2.6   The Frequency of Conditional Sentences

Hwang (1979) analyzed a corpus of English speech (63, 746 words) and writing (357, 249 words) representing diverse discourse types and concluded that in addition to general rules of consistency in tense sequencing, only two statements can be made about ungrammatical forms in conditional sentences:

i.   Logical uses of 'might' do not occur in 'if'- clause;

ii.   Subjunctive 'were and were to' do not occur in result clauses:

a.   If it might rain, we would need our umbrellas.

b.   If the weather got too hot, I were not feeling well.

Furthermore, Hwang found that seven structures - out of a total of about 70 patterns that naturally occurred - accounted for two - thirds of the conditional sentences in her corpora. Furthermore, she found that these seven patterns - with minor ranking differences - were most frequent in both the spoken and the written corpus.

The following table reproduces the most important frequency data reported by Hwang(1979: 63).

A Frequency Ranking of Conditional Sentence Types

Structure	Terminology	Speech 266 conditionals	Ranking	Writing 948 conditionals	Ranking
A: If + pres. ... pres.	generic factual	51 (19.2%)	1	156 (16.5%)	1
B: If + pres ... will/be going to	future (predictive)	29 (10.9%)	2	118 (12.5%)	2
C: If + past, {would, might, could}	present hypothetical or counter factual	27 (10.2%)	3	95 (10%)	4
D: If + pres .... {should, must, can, may}	explicit inference factual or future with weakened result	24 (9%)	4	114 (12.1%)	3
E: If + {were, were to} {would, could, might}	present or future hypothetical or present counterfactual	23 (8.6%)	5	57 (6%)	6
F: If + {had + en, have + en} {would, could, might} have	past counterfactual	10 (3.8%)	6	31 (3.3%)	7
G: If + pres .... {would, could, might}	future with weakened result	7 (2.6%)	7	58 (6.1%)	5

Note: This chart accounts for only those conditional sentences in Hwang's Corpora that followed the most frequent syntactic patterns; i.e., 171 of the total 266 conditional sentences in the spoken corpus and 629 of the total 948 conditional sentences in the written corpus.

2.7   Uses of conditional Sentences

According to Ford and Thompson (1986), who did a corpus analysis of conditional in English, conditional sentences with initial if-clauses perform four functions in both oral and written discourse. These functions are:

i.   To propose options for future scenarios,

ii.   To introduce contrasts,

iii.   To provide examples following generalizations, and

iv.   To make inferences based on previously mentioned assumptions.

Other uses of conditionals in oral discourse are :

v.   Giving polite directives,

vi.   Speaking humorously or sarcastically.

e.g.

a.   If he is intelligent, then I am Albert Einstein !

b.   If you had half a brain, you would be dangerous.

CHAPTER THREE
CONDITIONAL SENTENCES IN MAITHILI

3.1 Introduction

Conditional sentences are called "Anishchayatak Bodha" or "Sharta Bodha" wakya in the Maithili language. As in the English language, the conditional sentences in the Maithili language are composed of two constituent parts: the if/conditional clause and the main /result clause. In Maithili conditional sentences, we don't use comma (,) to join the 'if- clause' and the result clause rather we use the conjunction 'tə' for that purpose. The 'if- clause' that begins with jɔ̃, jədi and əgər, the order of the 'if -clause' and the main clause is not generally altered in the Maithili sentences. The following examples illustrate these:

i.   əgər tu   okəra   bolə-b-hi   tə   u   ait-o
      If   you (2NH) he (3NH) call-PRES-COND then (3NH) come-FUT-COND
      'If you call him, he will come.'

ii.   jədi tu   ait-e   tə   həm Janakpur Jait-o
      If you (2NH) come-PRES-COND then   I   Janakpur go-FUT- COND
      'If you come, I will go to Janakpur.'

iii. u səb   kaj kəlet-o   jɔ̃   prəyas kərt-ək

      They (3NH) Pl work do-PAST-FUT-PERF- COND if (3NH)-Pl try-PAST- COND
      'They could have done, if they tried.'

3.1.1 Conditional Sentence Structures

Ramawater Yadav, in his book "A Reference Grammar of Maithili 1997, has talked about the Maithili conditional sentences formation under the marker of the counterfactual conditional sentences in Maithili is basically -it-for all persons.

The full forms of the counterfactual conditional mood with person and honorific grades are shown below:

    Counterfactual   Conditional mood

    1/2H   -it-əhũ

    2MH   -it-əh

    2NH   -it-ẽle

    3H   -it-əith

    3NH   -(ə)it-o

Some of the examples have been given below:

i.   Jɔ̃ bərkha ho-it   tə   khub dhan ho-it
    If ran   be-COND-(3NH) then much paddy be-COND-(3NH)
    'Had it rained, the paddy would have grown in plenty'.

ii.   jɔ̃ əhã puja kəir-t-əhũ   tə həm-hũ kəir-t-əhũ
    If you(H) worship do-COND-(2H) then I-EMPH do-COND-(1)
    'Had you worshipped, I would have, too'.

3.1.2 Person and honorability

The inflectional affixes of Maithili verb represent three persons (i.e., first, second and third), and three honorific grades 15 (namely, honorific, mid-honorific and non-honorific) for the second person and two grade (honorific and non-honorific) for the third person. These affixes vary according to tense and transitivity, as shown below:

	First Person	Second Person			Third Person	
		(H) H	MH	NH	H	NH
Present	-i	-i	-əh	-e/-ẽ	-əth (əthinh)	-o~-ik[16]
Past	-əhũ/-i	-ɔhũ/-i	-əh	-e/-ẽ	Tr -əinh	-ək
					(-əith)	
					(-əthinh)	
					-əkhinh	
				Intr	-ah	-o
					(-əith)	
					(-thinh)	
					-əkhinh	
Future	-o~ək	-o~əik	-əh	-e/ẽ	-ah	-o~-əik

The inflectional affixes listed above are the 'primary' agreement affixes more will be said about 'primary' and 'secondary' agreement markers in 6.3. The following examples are illustrative:

həm   əb-əit   ch-i

I   come-IMPERF   AUX-PRES(1)

'I come/am coming.'

Conditional clauses are formed by adding the sub-ordination jɔ̃ (also jədi-yədi, əgər) 'if' to the clause which signals the condition and tə 'then' to main clause which states that the outcome will happen if condition is met. The following examples are given below:

i.   Jədi tora   rupaiya chhai-e   tə   tu   kitab kin-l-e

      If   you (2NH) money -PRES COND-then you (2NH) book buy-PRES

      'If you have money, you buy a book'.

ii.   jɔ̃ u   dəur-o   tə samayme pahuč-t-əik

If (he(3NH) run-PRES-COND   then intime   reach-FUT-COND

'If he runs, he will reach in time.'

iii.   Jɔ̃ bərkha ho-it   tə   khub dhan   ho-it

If rain   be-COND-(3NH) then much paddy be-COND-(3NH)

'Had it rained, the paddy would have grown in plenty'.

iv.   əgər tu   bhagyasəli   chi-hi tə   c̃andi nac̃h Kathmandu me

If you(2NH) lucky   PRES then c̃anḍi nac̃ Kathmandu-PREP(IN)

dekhə-bi-hi

May-PAST see COND

'If you are lucky, you might see chandi Nach at Kathmandu.'

The above sentences illustrate the example of the so called 'reality' conditional, the main morphological distinction of which is to mark the verb of both clauses with any combination of present, past and future.

Negation of either or both clauses is possible, syntactically, negative conditions are like ordinary conditionals.

i.   əgər O   Nepal nai abai-əith   tə sagarmatha nai dekh-t-əik

If   he (3H) Nepal not come PRES-COND then sagarmatha not see-FUT-COND

'If he does not come in Nepal, he will not see Sagarmatha.'

ii.   Jɔ̃ Rita   bhat nai Pake-t-əith   tə O   khet nai je-t-əik

If she (3H) rice not cook -PRES- COND then he(3H) field not go-PRES- COND

'If Rita does not cook food, he does not go to the field.

iii.   Jɔ̃ Pani parə-ti   tə həm nai abai-əik

If water fall-PRES- COND then I   not   come-FUT- COND

'If it rains, I will not come.'

3.2 Types of Conditional Sentence in the Maithili Language

As in the English language, we can classify the conditional sentences in four groups in the Maithili language. They are: conditional type-zero, the first conditional, the second conditional, and the third conditional.

Let us consider each of them in turn as follows:

1. Type -Zero Conditional

The form of type -zero conditional is simple in that sense the present tenses are used in both clauses. The type-zero conditional is normally used to talk about the fact and to express general truths. In the type-zero conditional, it is to be noticed that we are thinking about a result that is always true. The result of the condition is an absolute certainty. We use the simple present tense to talk about the result. The important thing about the zero-conditional is that the condition always has the same result. e.g.

i. jɔ̃ pani garəm-karəb   tə   baf-baindzet
    If water boil-PRES COND-then it change-PRES- COND steam
    'If water boils, it changes into steam.'

ii. əgər Bhutana kanat   tə abaj a-əit
    If   Bhutana cry-PRES- COND then sound come-PRES- COND
    'If Bhutana cries, the sound comes.'

iii. Jədi hath katai-tə   tə   khun baha-ta
     If   hand cut-PRES- COND then blood bleed-PRES- COND
     'If hand cuts, it bleeds.'

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ii.   First conditional

This type of conditional is used to talk about future events that are likely to happen. This type refers to future possibilities that are certain or probable. We use the first type conditional to talk about the future. We are thinking about a particular condition or situation in the future, and the result of this condition will happen. We use the simple present tense to talk about the possible future condition. We use 'will + base verb' to talk about the possible future result. e.g.

i.   əgər Diyesh parhə-t-o   tə   u   dakter ban-t-o
        If   Diyesh read-PRES- COND then he(3NH) dakter become -FUT- COND
        'If Diyesh reads, he will become a doctor.'

ii.   Jɔ̃ O   Nepal ai-t-əthin   tə Kathmandu ghumə-t-ah
        If he (3H) Nepal come-PRES- COND then Kathmandu visit-FUT- COND
        'If he comes in Nepal, he will visit Kathmandu.'

iii.   Jədi tu   kanbi-h-i   tə   tora həm pita-b-o
        If   You(2NH) cry-PRES- COND then (2NH) I   beat-FUT- COND
        'If you cry, I will beat you.'

iii.   Second Conditional

The second conditional is called the hypothetical or unreal future conditional since it is used to speculate about either very unlikely future situations or present and future impossibilities. It is to be noticed that after I/She/He/It, we often use the subjunctive form 'were' and not 'was'. We use the second conditional to talk about a future condition and we use the simple past tense to talk about the future condition and we use 'would + base verb' to talk about the future result. e.g.

i. əgər Sita khana me masala da-əith   tə swadist ha-əith

If Sita khana in masala use-PAST then tasty   MO.AUX be PRES

'If Sita used spices, the food would be tasty.'

ii. həm nik uc̃a   madhyamik vidhalaya me jai-t-i əgər həm

I   good higher secondary school   to MO. AUX go-PRES COND-then I

S.L.C. pass heib-t-i tə

S.L.C. Pass-PAST-COND

'I would go to a good 10+2 school if I passed the SLC.'

iii. Jədi həm c̃ara rahi-t-i   tə akash me uir-t-i

If   I   bird be-PAST- COND then sky   in MO. AUX fly-PRES- COND

'If I were a bind, I would fly in the sky'.

iv. Third Conditional

In the third conditional, we use the past perfect tense in the 'if-clause' and 'would + have' in the main clause or result. This type is used to talk about 'Impossible' conditions, impossible because they are in the past and we cannot change what he happened. e.g.

i. Jõ bərkha ho-it   tə khub dhan ho-it

If rain   be-COND-(3NH) then much paddy be-COND-(3NH)

'If it had rained, the paddy would have grown in plenty.'

ii. Gita Kitab kina-it   jõ okara sang me

Gita book buy-PAST-FUT-PERF-COND if (3NH) have

rupaiya rahɔ-it.

money have-PAST-COND

'Gita would have bought the book if she had any money.'

iii. Jɔdi u   prayas kɔr-ɔith tɔ u   daur jit-ɔith

If   he (3NH) try be-COND   then he(3NH) race be-COND

'If he had tried, he would have won the race.'

CHAPTER FOUR
SIMILARITIES AND DISSIMILARITIES BETWEEN ENGLISH AND MAITHILI IS TERMS OF THE CONDITIONAL SENTENCE FORMATION

4.1   Introduction

This chapter aims at exploring the similarities and dissimilarities between English and Maithili languages in terms of the conditional sentence formation. The sentences expressing factual implication or hypothetical situations and their consequences are called condition sentences in English, and 'Anishchayatak Bodha' or 'Sharta Bodha' wakya in Maithili. Both languages use a variety of conditional constructions and verb forms to form these kinds of sentences. They use numerous ways of expressing the meanings that get expressed in conditional sentences. Syntactically, a conditional sentence that consists of a subordinate clause and a main clause, is more complex than many other structures. Syntactically, the result is the main clause and the condition is a subordinate clause. It is primarily the properties of the condition that determine the properties of the entire sentence. e.g.

1.a.   əgər tu okəra bol-əb-hi tə u ai-to.

b.   If you call him, he will come

In the above examples, the first parts of both the sentences refer to the condition, and their second part refers to the result. If the syntactic analysis is to be made in the above examples, it differs at syntax level. The first sentence is an example of the Maithili conditional sentence which has begun with 'əgər' meaning 'if'. In the first sentence, the first part "əgər tu okəra bol-əb-hi" is the if clause

which refers to the condition, and the second part "u ai-to" is the main clause which refers to the result.

Similarly, the second sentence is an example of the English conditional sentence which has begun with 'if' and in which there is the use of the comma (,) to join the if-clause and the main clause. What is remarkable in the second sentence is that the order of the if-clause and the main clause can be altered without any change in the meaning. That is to say, the main clause may come in the beginning of the sentence and in this case the use of comma (,) is not needed to join both the clauses.

4.2   The Similarities and Dissimilarities

Certainly, there are similarities and the dissimilarities between the English and Maithili conditional sentences and be explored basically at the syntactic and semantic levels. The similarities and dissimilarities between them are as follows:

4.2.1 Similarities

1.   The conditional sentences in both English and Maithili languages are composed of two constituent parts: the if/subordinate clause and the main/result clause. The subordinate/ if-clause refers to the condition, and the main clause refers to the result of the condition expressed in the if-clause. e.g.

i.   əgər tu okəra bol-əb-hi tə   u ai-to
        the if/subordinate clause   the main clause
        condition   result
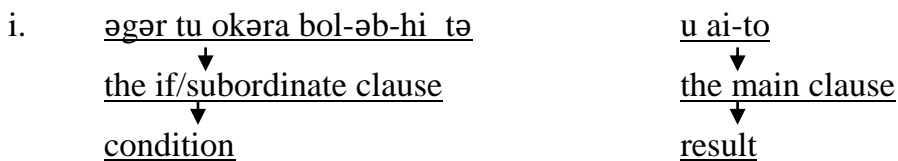
ii.   If you call him,   he will come
       ↓   ↓
       the if/subordinate clause   the main clause

       condition   result

2.   Both English and Maithili conditional Sentences use the adverbial sub-ordinator in their if/subordinate clause. The Maithili conditional sentences use the adverbial sub-ordinator 'jɔ̃', jədi and əgər' meaning 'if' in sub-ordinate clause, and the English conditional sentences use the adverbial sub-ordinator 'if' in their if/sub-ordinate clause. e.g.

iii.   jɔ̃ tu okəra bol-ab-hi tə   u   ai-to
       ↓
       the adverbial sub-ordinator.

iv.   If you call him, he will come.
       ↓
       ↓
       the adverbial sub-ordinator.

3.   The adverbial sub-ordinator with which the if clause begins can be omitted in certain circumstances in both English and Maithili conditional sentences. e.g.

v.   əgər tu okəra bo-əb-hi tə   u   ai-to
       tu bol-əb-hi tə   u   ai-to

       In the second sentence the adverbial sub-ordinator 'əgər' has been omitted which has caused no change in the meaning that is expressed in the first sentence.

       In the hypothetical conditional with initial 'if-clauses' containing certain auxiliary verbs such as 'had' or 'should', it is possible to detete the initial 'if', however, when such a deletion takes place, subject /operator must follow

vi.   If I had known that, I wouldn't have said anything.

Had known that, I wouldn't have said anything.

vii.   If the processions should arrive early, no one will be here to welcome them.

Should the processions arrive early, no one will be here to welcome them.

4.   We use the zero-type conditionals in both English and Maithili languages to talk about facts and to express general truths. The present tense is used in the both clauses in the zero-types conditionals. The result of the condition is an absolute certainty. e.g.

viii.   Jədi pani ke umalbe tə baf - baindzetə

The above sentence is an example of the Maithili zero-type conditional which expresses a general truth. So far as the tense is concerned, both the verbs 'umalbe' and 'baindzetə' are in simple present tenses.

5.   Similarly, we use the first type conditionals in both English and Maithili languages to talk about future events that are likely to happen. We use the simple present tense to talk about he possible future condition, and 'will + base verb' to talk about the possible future result. e.g.

x.   əgər Diyesh parahat tə u dakter bant-o

xi.   If Diyesh reads, he will become a doctor.

Both of the above sentences refer to future events that are likely to happen and both of them have followed the same tense patterns. That's to say, the simple present tense has been used in the 'if-clause', and 'will + base verb' in the main clause.

6.   Both English and Maithili languages use the second conditionals to speculate about either very unlikely future situations or present and future impossibilities.

Both the languages following the same tense patterns in the second conditionals. That is to say, they use the simple past tense in the if-calause to talk about the future condition, and 'would + base verb' in the main clause to talk about the future result e.g.

xii.   əgər sita Khana me masala dəith tə swadist ho-əith.

xiii.   If sita used spices, the food would be tasty.

7.   Both English and Maithili languages use the third conditional to talk about 'impossible' condition, impossible because they are in the past and we can not change what happened. They follow the same tense patterns. That is to say, they use the past perfect tense in the 'if- clause' and 'would + have' in the main clause e.g.

xiv.   Jɔ̃ bərkha ho-it tə khub dhan ho-it.

xv.   If it had rained, the paddy would have grown in plenty.

4.2.2 Dissimilarities

English and Maithili languages, being two different languages, use a variety of conditional constructions and verb forms to form the conditional sentences. They have their own ways of expressing meanings that get expressed in the conditional sentences. The dissimilarities between English and Maithili conditional sentences are as follows:

1.   In English conditional sentences, the comma (,) is used to join the if-clause and the main clause, but in the Maithili conditional sentences, the conjunction 'tə' is used for that purpose. e.g.

xviii.   If you call him, he will come.

xix.   əgər tu okəra boləbh-i tə u   ait-ah

2.   The order of the two clauses can be altered in English conditional sentences. That is to say, the 'if-clause' may precede the main clause and in that case the comma (,), is used after the 'if-clause'. The if-clause can also be switched to the end of the sentence if we want. e.g.

xx.   If you call him, he will come.

    He will come if you call him.

    In either order, the 'if-clause sets up the condition, and the main clause gives the result or outcome. The if-clause is treated as adverbial of condition.

    The order of the two clauses is not usually altered in Maithili conditional clauses. In Maithili, the main clause may not precede the if-clause. e.g.

xxi.   əgər tu okəra bol-əb-hi tə u ai-to

    If you call him, he will come.

*   u ait-ah əgər tu okəra bol-əb-hi tə.

    He will come, if you call him.

3.   In English conditional sentences, 'if' can be replaced by words or expressions with a similar meaning. The most commons are:

    as long as   with the condition

assuming (that)   whether

on condition (that)   suppose

unless   otherwise

There is not such an abundance of the words or expressions with a similar that can replace the adverbial sub-ordination 'jə̃, jədi, əgər' meaning 'if' in Maithili conditional sentences.

4.   In Maithili conditional sentences, 'if -clause' occurs on a simple verb phrase worked either by the conditional suffix '-i' to a simple verb stem or complex verb stem. The first person '-i' the second person '-i' in the Maithili conditional sentences but the third person '-əith' in present and '-inh or -əith' in past. e.g.

xxii.   əgər tu okəra boləbh-i tə u ait-ah

xxiii.   jə̃ u aitham ab-t-ək tə khe-t-ək.

In English conditional sentences, the if-clause may follow different tense patterns. They may occur in the present and past tenses and in their different forms as well.

xxiv.   If it rained, the paddy would be good.

xxv.   If it rains, the match may be postponed.

CHAPTER FIVE
PEDAGOGICAL IMPLICATION

On the basis of chapter II, III and IV, the researcher has recommended some important points which could be fruitful for teachers, linguists, language planners, syllabus designers, text book writers and other interested people. These are:

1. The students could be benefitted from this research in this way: students should know the type of conditional sentences. They could know about Maithili conditional sentences which are used day to day in their practical life and they could find conditional sentences are similar or dissimilar in this research of English and Maithili languages.

2. When a teacher teaches the students about the conditional sentences of English and Maithili languages, he/she must comprehend the rules of conditional sentences. When teaching conditional sentences of Maithili language, the teacher should mind the combination of two sentences each other. As for example both, the if-clause and the main clause are inseparable part of the conditional sentences. Teaching about if-clause and the main clause is simpler in English and Maithili languages but in English condition is 'if' whereas jɔ̃, əgər in Maithili condition. In English comma (,) has been used to join both if-clause and the main clause but in Maithili comma (,) has not been used.

3. Syllabus designers and text book writers could be benefitted from this research because they can recognize the difficulties of learning from dissimilarities and ease of learning from the similarities illustrated in this research. They can make their syllabus focusing difficulties and similarities because these qualities determine the understanding of the readers. As

regards the text book writers, they may include the rules of conditional sentences of this research.

4.   Linguists and language planners who study the language scientifically, could be benefitted from this research because there is the description of conditional sentences on the basis of modern data in the scientific ways.

CHAPTER SIX
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.1   Summary

This chapter aims at summarizing the whole dessertation and presenting its brief conclusion. The introductory chapter of the present dissertation has shed light on all the issues to be dealt in the whole thesis. It has introduced both English and Maithili languages along with their importance and historical facts. It has given an outline of the whole thesis giving information about the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, the methodology, the related literature (language) review, the limitation of the study, the significance of grammar in improving language, and the organization of the whole study.

The second chapter which one is the focal point of this dissertation deals with the conditional sentences in English. It has presented a study of the conditional sentence formation in English language at the level of syntax and semantics. This chapter has made a formal /syntactic analysis of the conditional sentences in English applying the phrase structure rules and mapping rules with the help of tree-diagrams. This chapter has also dealt with the kinds and the meaning/semantics of the conditional sentences in details. While dealing with the conditional sentences in detail. While dealing with the kinds of the conditional sentences, in response to the traditional grammarians, who have talked about the three kinds of the conditional sentences only, the researcher has explored a new type of the conditional sentences called the zero-type conditional. The form of the zero-type conditional is simple because the present tenses are used in the both clauses. This type of the conditional sentence is used to express the general truth or the scientific facts. e.g. "If you boil ice, it turns into vapor". The second chapter has not only dealt with the formal/syntactic classification of the conditional into factual, predictive and imaginative conditionals.

The third chapter has presented the systactic and semantic study of the conditional sentence formation in the Maithili language. It has dealt with the systactic structures or different forms of the conditional sentences in the Maithili language. The change in syntactic structures or forms cause the change in meaning. While dealing with the conditional clause structures in this chapter, the researcher taking the help of the grammars of Ramawatar Yadav and Yugeshwar Jha has generalized about the conditional sentence formation and talked about four kinds of the conditional sentences which are not categorically given in their work. So, the discussion about the four kinds of the conditional sentences in the Maithili language is a kind of finding or an exploration by the researcher.

The fourth chapter which is also a focal point of this dissertation, has found out some similarities and dissimilarities in English and Maithili languages in terms of the conditional sentence formation. Since Maithili and English are two different languages, the dissimilarities between them in terms of the formation of the conditionals are natural. This chapter has presented some seven similarities, and four dissimilarities between them in terms of the conditional sentence formation. This shows that both English and Maithili languages are more similar in expression of factual implications or hypothetical situations.

6.2   Conclusion

Concludingly, the sentences expressing the factual implications or hypothetical situation and their consequences are called the conditional sentences. English and Maithili, in spite of being two different languages, are more similar in the expression of the factual implications or hypothetical situations and their consequences. It does not mean that they use the same syntactic structure to express the hypothetical/imaginative situations. The whole discussion about the conditional sentences in English language can be concluded with the help of the

following chart where we should not take the 50 percent and 10 percent figures too literally.

Table 1

Probability		Conditional	Example	Time
100%	__	Zero-conditional	If you heat ice, it melts	Anytime
50%	_	First conditional	If it rains, I will stay at home	Future
10%	-	Second conditional	If I won the lottery, I would buy a car	Future
0%		Third conditional	If I had won the lottery, I would have bought a car.	Past

So far as the conditional sentence formation in the Maithili language is concerned, it is a less research area of study where we find the lack of adequate syntactic structures to form the conditional sentence to express the hypothetical situations and their consequences.

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