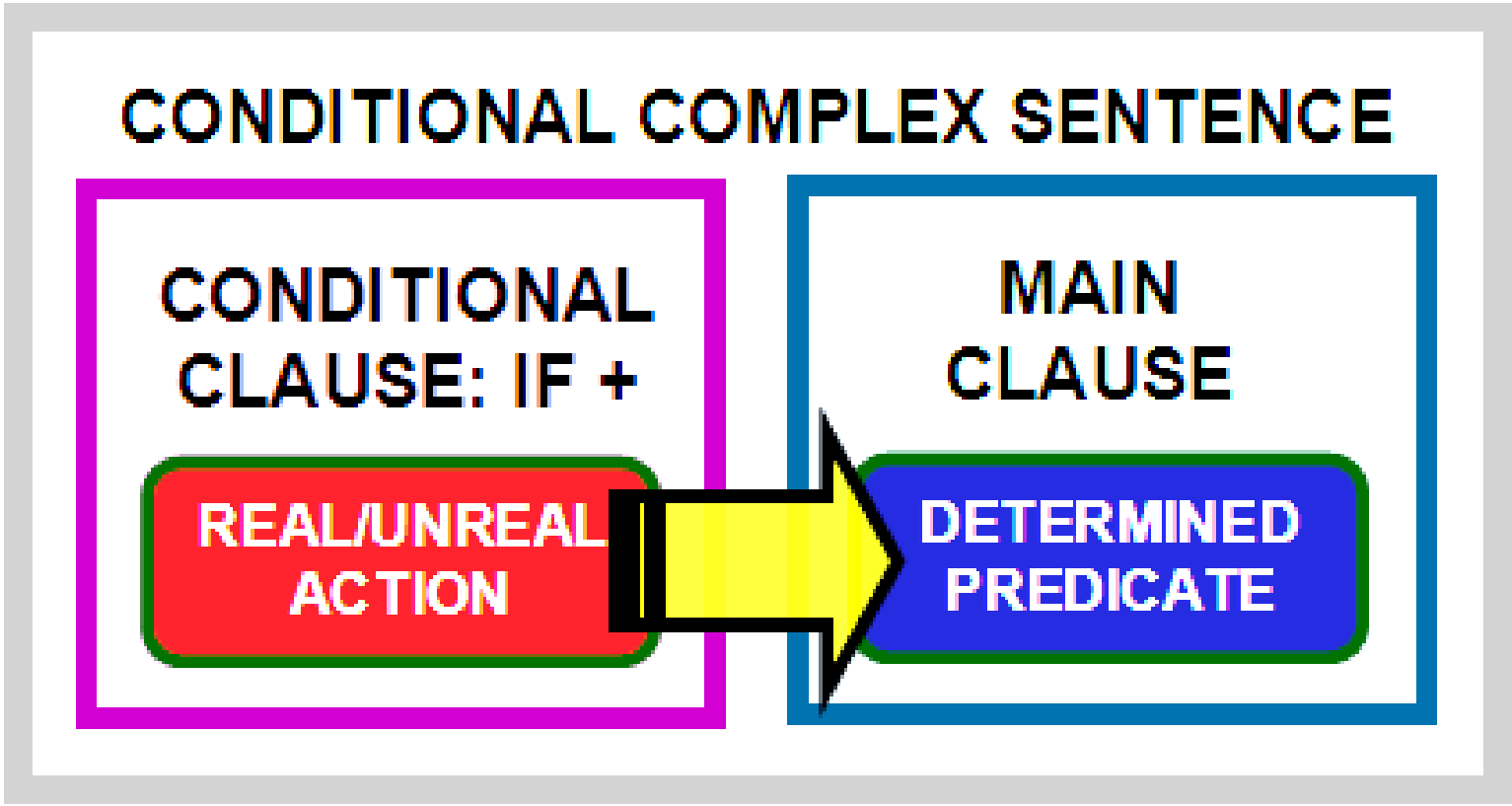
CONDITIONALS


CONDITIONAL COMPLEX SENTENCE
CONDITIONAL CLAUSE: IF +
REAL/UNREAL ACTION
MAIN CLAUSE
DETERMINED PREDICATE

ZERO CONDITIONAL

If you **don't water** flowers, they **die**.

If you **have** a headache, **stop** watching TV.

If clause:

PRESENT SIMPLE

Main clause:

PRESENT SIMPLE

or **[IMPERATIVE]**

With zero conditional

we express **a general truth** or we give **advice**.

FIRST CONDITIONAL

If the weather **is** nice, we **will go** for a walk.

If you **don't apologize**, she **will** never **trust** you again.

If clause: **PRESENT SIMPLE**

Main clause: **FUTURE WILL**

The first conditional refers to the **present** and **future**.

It expresses a **possible condition** and its **probable result in the future**.

SECOND CONDITIONAL

If I **had** a lot of money, I **would buy** a big house.

If I **knew** his number, I **would phone** him.

if-clause:
PAST TENSE SIMPLE

main clause:
WOULD + INFINITIVE

The second conditional refers to **the present** and **future**.

It expresses **an unreal situation** and its probable result.

The situation or condition is **improbable, impossible, imaginary**, or contrary to known facts.

FIRST v. SECOND CONDITIONAL

If John runs fast, he will win the race.

This is still possible to happen.

If John ran fast, he would win the race.

This is unlikely to happen because John doesn't run fast.

THE DIFFERENCE: FIRST and SECOND CONDITIONAL

Both conditionals refer to **the present** and **future**.

The difference is about **probability**, **not time**.

First conditional: real and possible situations

Second conditional: unlikely to happen

THIRD CONDITIONAL

If I **had had** a lot of money, I **would have bought** a big house.

If I **had known** his number, I **would have phoned** him.

if-clause:
PAST PERFECT SIMPLE

main clause:
WOULD + HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

The third conditional refers to **the past** and it is **not based on facts**. It expresses the a situation which is **contrary to reality in the past.**

SECOND v. THIRD CONDITIONAL

If I saw a car accident, I would call an ambulance.

But I don't see an accident now. This is unlikely to happen.

If I had seen a car accident, I would have called an ambulance.

But I didn't see an accident yesterday.
This is contrary to the fact in the past.

THE DIFFERENCE: SECOND and THIRD CONDITIONAL

The difference is about **time**.

Second conditional: refers to the present and future

Third conditional: refers to the past situations

ALL CONDITIONALS

0. If he drives carefully, he avoids the accident.

General time reference.

1. If he drives carefully, he will avoid the accident tomorrow.

This is still possible to happen.

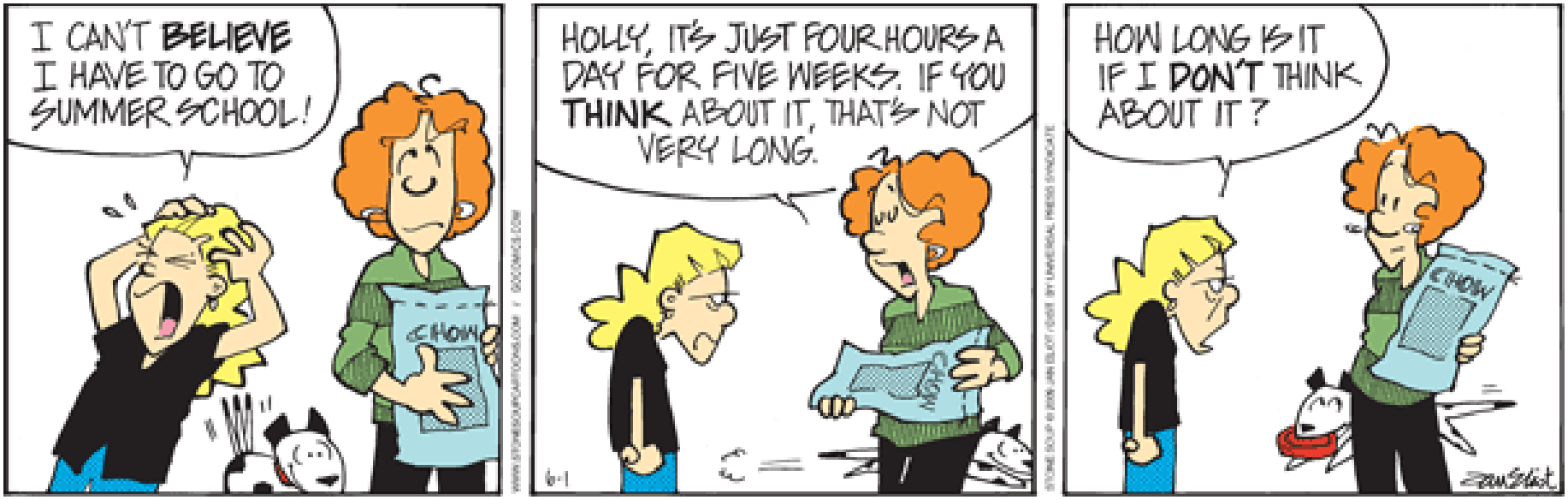
2. If he drove carefully, he would avoid the accident today.

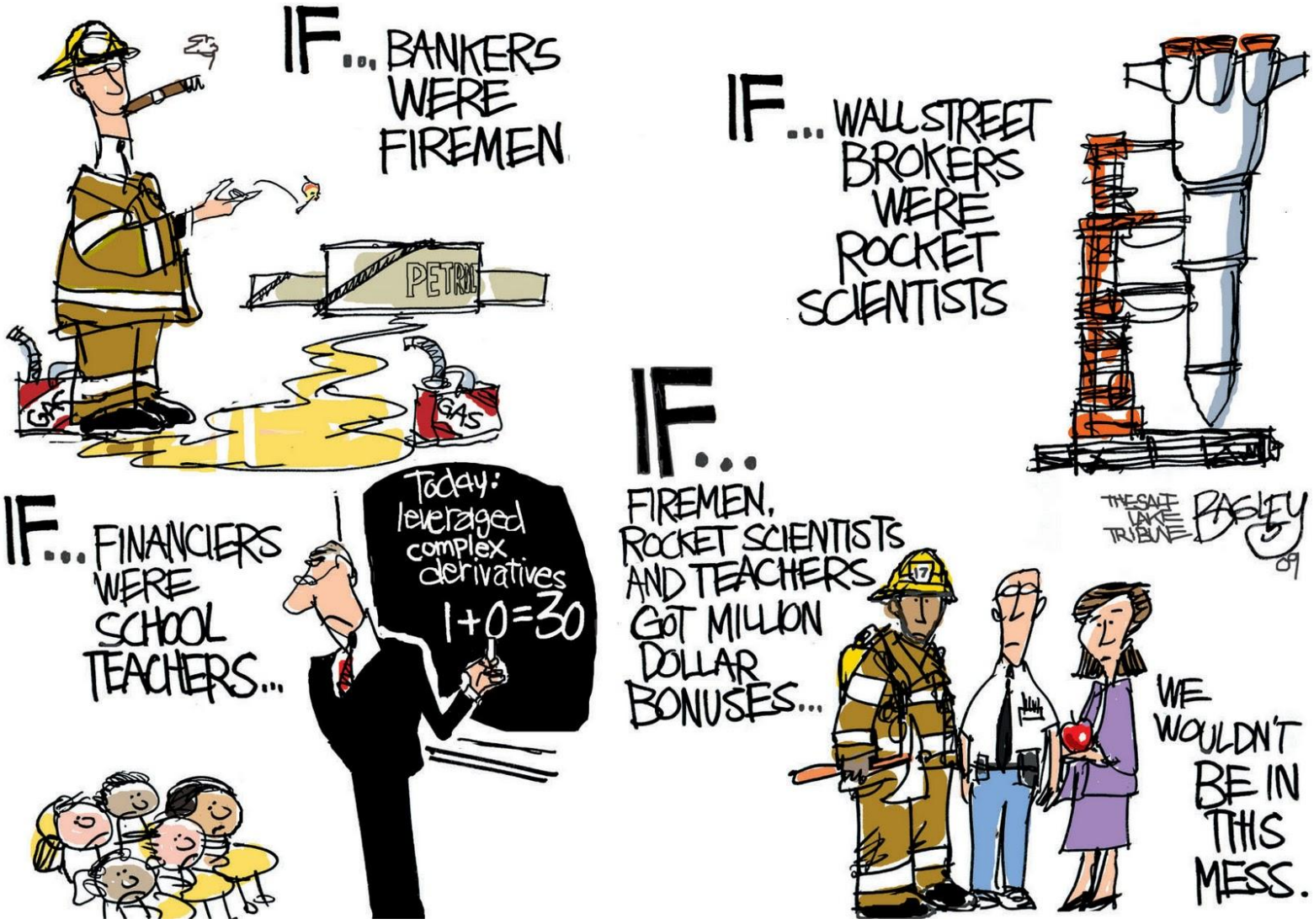
But he doesn't drive carefully. This is unlikely to happen.

3. If he had driven carefully, he would have avoided the accident yesterday.

But he didn't drive carefully, so he didn't avoid the accident.

	If-clause *(condition)*	**Main clause** *(result)*
Zero *Conditional* - used for **present, real**/factual situations	If I **drink** coffee at night,	I **don't sleep** well.
First Conditional - used **for future real**/factual situations	If I **drink** coffee tonight,	I **won't sleep** well.
Second Conditional - used for present or **future unreal**, imaginary situations	If I **drank** coffee tonight,	I **wouldn't sleep** well.
Third Conditional - used for **past unreal**, imaginary situations	If I **had drunk** coffee last night,	I **wouldn't have slept** well.


I CAN'T BELIEVE I HAVE TO GO TO SUMMER SCHOOL!
CHOW
HOLLY, IT'S JUST FOUR HOURS A DAY FOR FIVE WEEKS. IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THAT'S NOT VERY LONG.
6-1
HOW LONG IS IT IF I DON'T THINK ABOUT IT?
CHOW


IF... BANKERS WERE FIREMEN
PETRO
GAS
GAS
IF... WALL STREET BROKERS WERE ROCKET SCIENTISTS
IF... FINANCIERS WERE SCHOOL TEACHERS...
Today: leveraged complex derivatives
1+0=30
IF... FIREMEN, ROCKET SCIENTISTS AND TEACHERS GOT MILLION DOLLAR BONUSES...
17
WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS MESS.
THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE
BAGLEY
09