

Examples of future unreal conditionals

καὶ μὴν ἔμοιγε ζῶντι μέν, καθ' ἡμέραν
κεί σμίκρ' ἔχοιμι, πάντ' ἂν ἀρκούντως ἔχοι·
τύμβον δὲ βουλοίμην ἂν ἀξιούμενον
τὸν ἐμὸν ὀρᾶσθαι· διὰ μακροῦ γὰρ ἡ χάρις.

*For me, while I am alive, I would be happy with my lot
even if I had only a little.
But my tomb I would like to be good to look at.
That benefit lasts a long time.*

Euripides Hecuba 317-20

τούτοις τοῦτο πᾶσιν ἀνδάνειν
λέγοιτ' ἂν, εἰ μὴ γλῶσσαν ἐγκλήοι φόβος.

This would be described as pleasing everyone if fear did not block their tongues.

Sophocles Antigone 504-5

Μήδεια: ἔσται τάδ'· ἀλλὰ πίστις εἰ γένοιτό μοι
τούτων, ἔχοιμ' ἂν πάντα πρὸς σέθεν καλῶς.
Αἰγεύς: μῶν οὐ πέποιθας; ἢ τί σοι τὸ δυσχερές;

*Medea: These things will come to pass. But if I had a pledge from you, I would have everything
I wanted from you.*

Aegeus: You can't not trust me, can you? What is your problem?

Euripides Medea 731-734

εἰ τὴν αὐτὴν γνώμην περὶ τῶν ἄλλων ἔχοιτε, ἥνπερ περὶ ὑμῶν αὐτῶν, οὐκ ἂν εἴη ὅστις οὐκ ἐπὶ τοῖς γεγενημένοις ἀγανακτοίη, ἀλλὰ πάντες ἂν περὶ τῶν τὰ τοιαῦτα ἐπιτηδεύοντων τὰς ζημίας μικρὰς ἡγοῖσθε.

if you had the same feelings about others as about yourselves, not one of you but would be indignant at what has been done; you would all regard the penalties appointed for those who resort to such practices as too mild.

Lysias Speeches 1.1

ὦ φίλε Κρίτων, ἡ προθυμία σου πολλοῦ ἀξία εἰ μετὰ τινος ὀρθότητος εἴη· εἰ δὲ μή, ὅσω μείζων τοσούτῳ χαλεπωτέρα.

My dear Crito, your eagerness is worth a great deal, if it should prove to be rightly directed; but otherwise, the greater it is, the more hard to bear.

Plato Crito 46b

οὐδ' ἂν σὺ φαίης, εἴ σε μὴ κνίζοι λέχος.

You would not say so, if this marriage did not annoy you

Euripides Medea 568

σὺ δὲ τότε μὲν ἐκαλλωπίζου ὥς οὐκ ἀγανακτῶν εἰ δέοι τεθνάναι σε, ἀλλὰ ἡροῦ, ὥς ἔφησθα, πρὸ τῆς φυγῆς θάνατον·

But you then put on airs and said you were not disturbed if you must die, and you preferred, as you said, death to exile.

Plato Crito 52c

εἰ γάρ,” ἦ δ' ὅς, “ὦ Ζεῦ καὶ θεοί, ἐν τούτῳ εἴη· ὥς οὔτ' ἂν τῶν ἐμῶν ἐπιλίπομι οὐδὲν οὔτε τῶν φίλων·

"If only that were the case, by Zeus and all the gods", I said, "as then I would not leave a single penny of my own money or my friends' money untouched!"

Plato Protagoras 310d

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Plato Protagoras 310d

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φαίην κε φρέν’ ἀτέρπου ὀϊζύος ἐκλελαθέσθαι.

*If I could see him gone down to Hades,
Then I could say my heart had forgotten its joyless misery.*

Homer Iliad 6.284-5

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