

Examples of past unreal conditional

εἰ γὰρ Ὅμηρος εἰπὼν ὅτι ἦλθεν ὁ Χρύσης τῆς τε θυγατρὸς λύτρα φέρων καὶ ἰκέτης τῶν Ἀχαιῶν, μάλιστα δὲ τῶν βασιλέων, μετὰ τοῦτο μὴ ὡς Χρύσης γενόμενος ἔλεγεν ἀλλ' ἔτι ὡς Ὅμηρος, οἷσθ' ὅτι οὐκ ἂν μίμησις ἦν ἀλλὰ ἀπλῇ διήγησις.

"If Homer, once he had told us that Chryses had come with the ransom for his daughter, as a suppliant of the Achaeans and in particular the kings, if after that he had continued to speak not as Chryses but still as Homer, you realise that it would not be imitation but simple narration."

Plato Republic 3 393d

εἰ γὰρ Ὅμηρος εἰπὼν ὅτι ἦλθεν ὁ Χρύσης τῆς τε θυγατρὸς λύτρα φέρων καὶ ἰκέτης τῶν Ἀχαιῶν, μάλιστα δὲ τῶν βασιλέων, μετὰ τοῦτο μὴ ὡς Χρύσης γενόμενος ἔλεγεν ἀλλ' ἔτι ὡς Ὅμηρος, οἷσθ' ὅτι οὐκ ἂν μίμησις ἦν ἀλλὰ ἀπλῇ διήγησις.

"If Homer, once he had told us that Chryses had come with the ransom for his daughter, as a suppliant of the Achaeans and in particular the kings, if after that he had continued to speak not as Chryses but still as Homer, you realise that it would not be imitation but simple narration."

Plato Republic 3 393d

καίτοι ποίας τινὸς ἂν ἐκεῖνοι παρ' ἡμῶν εἰρήνης ἔτυχον, εἰ μίαν μόνον μάχην ἠττήθησαν;

And yet what kind of peace treaty would they have got from us if they had lost but one battle?

Andocides On the Peace 19

εἰ ἐν ἐκείνῃ τῇ νυκτὶ ἐγὼ ἐπεβούλευον Ἐρατοσθένει, πότερον ἦν μοι κρεῖττον αὐτῷ
ἐτέρωθι δειπνεῖν ἢ τὸν συνδειπνήσοντά μοι εἰσαγαγεῖν; οὕτω γὰρ ἂν ἦττον
ἐτόλμησεν ἐκεῖνος εἰσελθεῖν εἰς τὴν οἰκίαν.

*if on that night I had designs on Eratosthenes, which was more to my advantage, —to go and
take my dinner elsewhere, or to bring in my guest to dinner with me? For in the latter case
that man would have been less likely to venture on entering my house.*

Lysias Speeches 1.40

εἰ καὶ αὐτὸς Πρίαμος συνοίκεε Ἑλένη, ἀποδοῦναι ἂν αὐτὴν τοῖσι Ἀχαιοῖσι, μέλλοντά
γε δὴ τῶν παρόντων κακῶν ἀπαλλαγέσθαι.

*If Priam himself had lived with Helen he would have given her back to the Greeks, if we would
have escaped from his current troubles.*

Herodotus Histories 2.120