

Practice

1 Tick (✓) the possible conditions and cross (X) the incorrect ones. Think about the meaning as well as the grammar.

- 1 We'll be able to go out tomorrow evening ...
A if the babysitter will be available. B so long as the babysitter can come.
C provided the babysitter hasn't got any other plans.
- 2 Before we leave, we'd better turn on the automatic watering system ...
A in case it doesn't rain while we're away.
B if it doesn't rain while we're away.
C provided it doesn't rain while we're away.
- 3 When the weather's really hot ...
A I get a lot of headaches. B I would get a lot of headaches.
C I sometimes get a headache.
- 4 I'm sure you'd get a lot more business ...
A unless you charged so much. B if you didn't charge so much.
C unless you didn't charge so much.
- 5 Frozen chicken isn't safe to eat ...
A if it hasn't been thoroughly defrosted. B if it isn't thoroughly cooked.
C unless it has been defrosted and cooked correctly.
- 6 We used to walk to school ...
A when the weather was good. B whether it was hot or cold.
C even if it was raining.

2 **GRAMMAR IN USE** Choose the correct words in *italics>. If both options are correct, choose both. ▶▶ 3.19 Listen and check.*

INVASION OF GIANT GRASS

There's little doubt that (1) *provided* / *if* we want to combat global warming and the effects of climate change, we (2) *have* / *would have* to find more sustainable sources of energy. Oil and gas produce harmful greenhouse gases and, of course, there is only a limited supply available. So, (3) *in case* / *unless* we act soon, we (4) *run out* / *will run out* of energy supplies. Recently, scientists have been looking at the use of fast-growing grasses as an alternative to traditional fossil fuels. These grasses can be burnt in power stations to provide a renewable source of energy. (5) *So long as* / *If* it is grown properly, grass (6) *will be* / *is* carbon neutral – that is, it does not give off more carbon than it absorbs. The idea is that farmers will grow crops for energy rather than for food. Scientists believe that if we (7) *provide* / *provided* sufficient subsidies, farmers will be happy to start growing these new crops.

There are several trial schemes under way at present, including two in the north of England. Local farmers are growing a variety known as elephant grass. (8) *Whether* / *When* it is grown in its native tropics, the grass (9) *reaches* / *can reach* a height of over 4 metres. It is a grass that grows happily in the cooler climates of northern Europe, forming thick forests that provide a welcome habitat for wildlife. One scheme is at the Drax power station in Yorkshire, Britain's biggest power plant. If all (10) *goes* / *will go* to plan, the station (11) *is* / *will be* able to cut its emissions of greenhouse gases by five percent. But not everyone is happy with the scheme. Local conservationists are worried about the impact of the giant grass on the countryside. (12) *Whether* / *If* elephant grass solves our energy needs or not, they feel it is an ugly and unwelcome blot on the landscape.

