

Unless ★★

We use **unless** in two (similar) ways:

1 **unless** = *if ... not*
(Every time!)



You'll break your glasses unless you take them off!

You'll break your glasses if you don't take them off!

2 **unless** = *except when*
(Unusual!)



He never wears a wig unless he's working!

He never wears a wig except when he's working

Quick check

Decide if **unless** means '*if not*' or '*except when*', and tick the corresponding box:

- | | if ...
not | except
when |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 You'll be fired unless you come to work on time! | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 We always open at 7 am unless it's a bank holiday. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 I am seriously thinking of leaving unless I hear news soon. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 I always walk to work unless it's pouring with rain. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5 You don't have to take part unless you want to. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

