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1. Ordinary vivid future:

Si hace feceris, stultus eris.

If you do this, you will be foolish.

2. Less vivid future:

Si hace facias, stultus sis.

If you should do this, you would be foolish.

3. Very vivid future:

Si hace facies, stultus eris.

If you are going to do this, you will be foolish.

II. Implying non-fulfilment of the condition.

(a) Present—Si hace faceres, stultus esses.

If you were doing this, you would be foolish.

This also denotes continuous action in the past.

(b) Past— Si hace fecieses, stultus fuisses. If you had done this, you would have been foolish.

B. General sentences.

(a) Present-Si quis haec fecit punitur.

If anyone does this he is punished.

The pres. ind. also is sometimes used.

(b) Past— Si quis haec fecerat puniebatur. If anyone did this he was (or used to be) punished.

It is to be noticed 1st, that we have either the subjunctive in both clauses, or the indicative in both, the imperative however often taking the place of the indicative in the apodosis. Any violations of this are either due to rhetorical emphasis or vividness, or are but apparent exceptions, e.g., the hortative subj. is really equivalent to an imperative, and for the subj. are often substituted certain periphrastic forms with debeo, possum, licet, etc., or compounds of sum with fut. partic, act, and pass. With these may be compared our English substitutes for the subjunctive mood. 2nd. The time may not always be the same in protasis and apodosis: a present consequence may be expressed as depending upon a past condition; but this will not affect the mood. 3rd. "If he should have anything he would give it," requires the present subj. in both clauses, not the imperf. subj., which cannot refer to future time. 4th. The difference between the three future forms has nothing to do with prospect of decision. Between the two first, which are far the most common, the difference is exactly the same as in English between shall or will and should or would—the second expressing a less vivid conception in the mind than the first, while the third class regards the event with most vivid interest, as exceedingly imminent.

The following quotations will illustrate their uses:

Hoc denique ipso die, si quae vis est parata, si quae dimicatio capitis sutura, deposco.—Cic. pro. Mil., § 100.

Si Athenienses quibusdam temporibus Areopago sublato, nihil nisi populi scitis ac decretis agebant, non tenebat ornatum suum civitas.—Cic. de Rep. I. 27.

Quorum clamor si qui forte fuerit, admonere vos debebit. — Cic. pro Mil., § 3.

Nos similes istorum simus, si diutius hic moremur.—Livy VII. 34.

Ita vero, si illi bellum facere conabuntur, excitandus novis erit ab inferis C. Marius.—Cic. pro Font. XVI. 36.

Ego vero non gravarer, si mihi ipse confiderem.—Cic. de Amic. V. 17.

Et persecta utraque res esset, ni tribuni se in omnia simul consulere plebum dixissent. Livy VI. 39.

Si quis eorum decreto non stetit, sacrificiis interdicunt.—Caes. B. G. VI. 12.

Si a persequendo hostes deterrere nequiverant, disjectos a tergo circumveniebant.— Sall. Jug. 50.

Among the advantages of this method are that it is at once more accurate and more practical than the old, for there is not a point in the whole classification that cannot be readily and easily decided: that it can be applied to Greek, and probably to any inflected language, as successfully as to Latin, being based on natural divisions: and that it may be extended to hypothetical relative and hypothetical temporal sentences, the treatment of which is thereby greatly simplified.