

## IN CASE

In case is a conjunction which means: **because it is possible - because there might be (or might have been) a situation in which...**: *I'll leave my mobile phone switched on **in case** Jane calls. (=because it is possible she will call)*

Use **just in case** for a smaller possibility: *I don't think it will rain, but I'll take an umbrella **just in case**. (=just in case it rains)*

- **Do not use will after in case.** *I'll leave my phone switched on **in case** Jane calls. (NOT: in case Jane will call)*  
When talking about the present or future, it is used with the **present tense**: *Lock the doors **in case** someone tries to break in.*
- When talking about the past, it is used with the **past simple tense** to say why somebody did something: *I left my phone switched on **in case** Jane called. (=because it was possible that Jane would call)*  
*We took a bottle of water **in case** we got thirsty.*
- It is sometimes used with **should** when a present or future event is **unlikely to happen**: *The Prince of Wales and the Queen never travel together in the same plane **in case** it should crash.*
- **In case** is not the same as **if**. Use **in case** to say *why* somebody does (or doesn't do) something.  
You do something *now* **in case** something happens *later*.

### Compare:

In case	if
- We'll buy some more food <b>in case</b> Tom comes. (= Maybe Tom will come. We'll buy some more food now, whether he comes or not; then we'll <i>already</i> have the food <i>if</i> he comes.)	- We'll buy some more food <b>if</b> Tom comes. (= Maybe Tom will come. If he comes, we'll buy some more food; if he doesn't come, we won't buy any more food.)
- I'll give you my phone number <b>in case</b> you need to contact me.	- You can call me on this number <b>if</b> you need to contact me.
- You should insure your bike <b>in case</b> it is stolen.	- You should inform the police <b>if</b> your bike is stolen.

- **In case of** is not the same as **in case**.  
**In case of ...** = if there is ... (especially on notices etc.): ***In case of fire**, please leave the building as quickly as possible. (= if there is a fire)*      ***In case of emergency**, call this number. (= if there is an emergency)*
- **In the event of (something)/in the event that** = if it should happen that...; if (something) happens.  
***In the event of a fire**, please use the stairs. - He planned to start a business, **in the event that** he lost his job"*  
Use **in the event of**, **in the event that**, and **in that event** when you are talking about a possible future situation, especially when you are planning what to do if it occurs. (formal)

## EXERCISE 10

10. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the word in bold and other words. Use between two and five words.

1. You may need to contact me, so I'll give you my phone number.

**case**

I'll give you my phone number \_\_\_\_\_ to contact me.

2. In case Tom comes home late we'll leave the door unlocked.

**because**

We'll leave the door unlocked \_\_\_\_\_ home late.

3. 'Take a credit card, because you might run out of money,' he told us.

**case**

He told us to take a credit card \_\_\_\_\_ of money.

4. It is unlikely that you will need it, but take the tent with you anyway.

**should**

Take the tent with you \_\_\_\_\_ need it.

5. It is possible that no one will speak English, so you had better take this phrase-book with you.

**case**

You had better take this phrase-book with you \_\_\_\_\_ English.

6. In case you want a drink in the night, I'll leave some water by your bed.

**because**

I'll leave some water by your bed \_\_\_\_\_ a drink in the night.

7. The reason we took our camera was that we might have wanted to take some photos.

**case**

We took our camera \_\_\_\_\_ to take some photos.

8. We may not see each other tomorrow, so I'll say goodbye now.

**case**

I'll say goodbye now \_\_\_\_\_ see each other tomorrow.

9. I'll give you my address in case you want to visit me in Scotland.

**might**

I'll give you my address \_\_\_\_\_ to Visit me in Scotland.

10. There was a possibility that she might forget the number, so she wrote it on the back of her hand.

**case**

She wrote the number on the back of her hand \_\_\_\_\_ it.

11. Use the word at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space on the same line.

<p><b>Nursing</b>  Nursing is a job which demands great (0) _____ of character.  Most (1) _____ nurses work long hours and are underpaid.  They make the (2) _____ to become nurses  in the (3) _____ that the job will never make  them (4) _____; all they can hope for is the  (5) _____ that comes from helping people who need them.  (6) _____, nurses'  (7) _____ often seem to take advantage of this  (8) _____ attitude, and make them work as many hours as  possible for very little money. So it is not (9) _____ that  nurses sometimes become (10) _____ with  their bosses, and decide to take action to improve their working conditions.</p>	<p>STRONG  PROFESSION  DECIDE  KNOW  WEALTH  SATISFY  UNFORTUNATE  EMPLOY  IDEAL  SURPRISE  PATIENT</p>
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**KEY**

10. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Use the word in bold and other words. Use between two and five words.

1. You may need to contact me, so I'll give you my phone number.

**case**

I'll give you my phone number \_\_\_\_\_ *in case you need* \_\_\_\_\_ to contact me.

2. In case Tom comes home late we'll leave the door unlocked.

**because**

We'll leave the door unlocked because Tom may/might home late.

3. 'Take a credit card, because you might run out of money,' he told us.

**case**

He told us to take a credit card in case we ran out of money.

4. It is unlikely that you will need it, but take the tent with you anyway.

**should**

Take the tent with you in case you should need it.

5. It is possible that no one will speak English, so you had better take this phrase-book with you.

**case**

You had better take this phrase-book with you in case nobody speaks English.

6. In case you want a drink in the night, I'll leave some water by your bed.

**because**

I'll leave some water by your bed because you might want a drink in the night.

7. The reason we took our camera was that we might have wanted to take some photos.

**case**

We took our camera in case we wanted to take some photos.

8. We may not see each other tomorrow, so I'll say goodbye now.

**case**

I'll say goodbye now in case we do not see each other tomorrow.

9. I'll give you my address in case you want to visit me in Scotland.

**might**

I'll give you my address because you might want to Visit me in Scotland.

10. There was a possibility that she might forget the number, so she wrote it on the back of her hand.

**case**

She wrote the number on the back of her hand in case she forgot it.

11. Use the word at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space on the same line.

<p><b>Nursing</b></p> <p>Nursing is a job which demands great (0) <u>STRENGTH</u> of character.  Most (1) <u>PROFESSIONAL</u> nurses work long hours and are underpaid.  They make the (2) <u>DECISION</u> to become nurses  in the (3) <u>KNOWLEDGE</u> that the job will never make  them (4) <u>WEALTHY</u>; all they can hope for is the  (5) <u>SATISFACTION</u> that comes from helping people who need  them. (6) <u>UNFORTUNATELY</u>, nurses'  (7) <u>EMPLOYERS</u> often seem to take advantage of this  (8) <u>IDEALISTIC</u> attitude, and make them work as many hours as  possible for very little money. So it is not (9) <u>SURPRISING</u> that  nurses sometimes become (10) <u>IMPATIENT</u> with their  bosses, and decide to take action to improve their working conditions.</p>	<p>STRONG  PROFESSION  DECIDE  KNOW  WEALTH  SATISFY  UNFORTUNATE  EMPLOY  IDEAL  SURPRISE  PATIENT</p>
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