

Meme It Until You Mean It

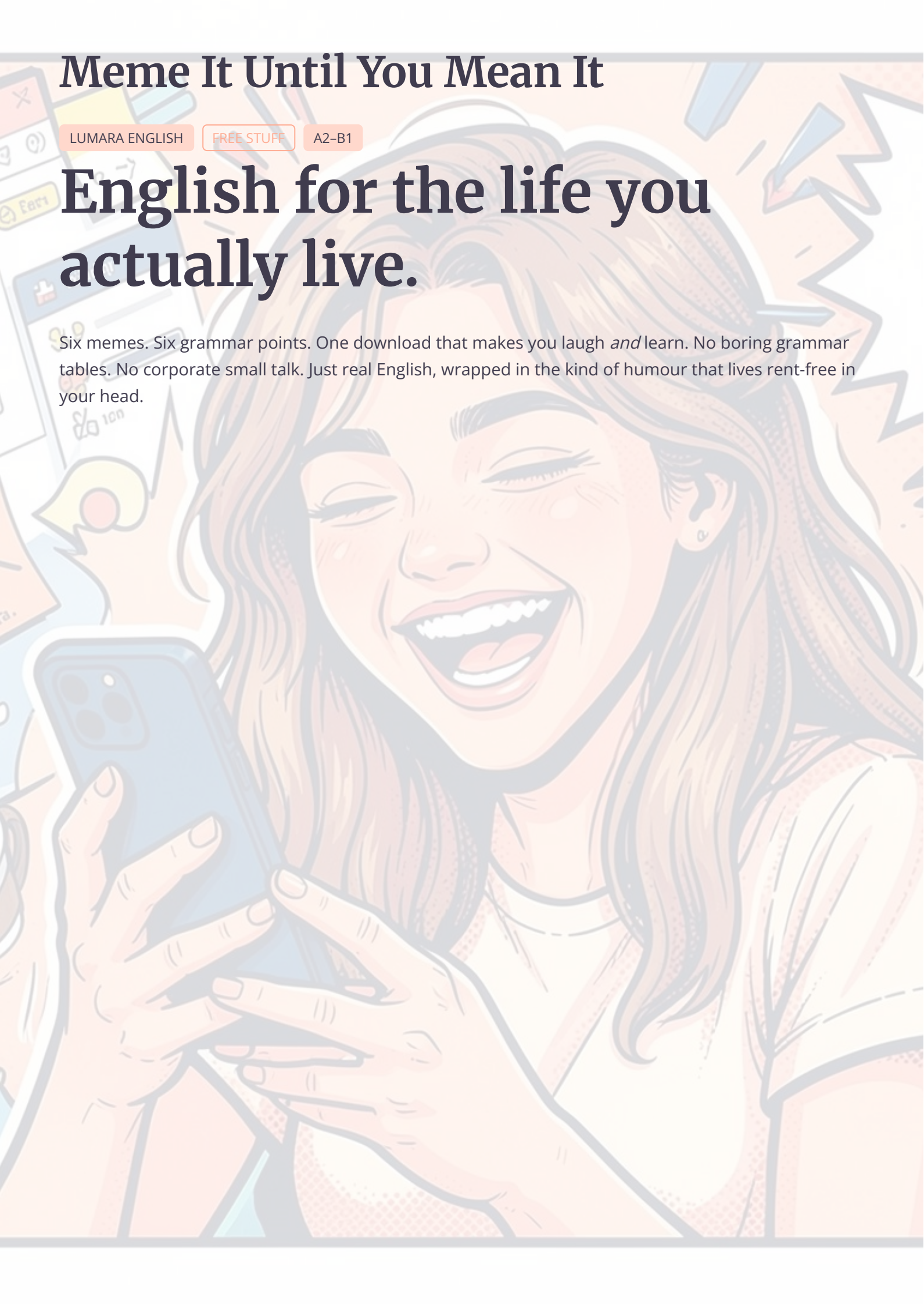
LUMARA ENGLISH

FREE STUFF

A2-B1

English for the life you actually live.

Six memes. Six grammar points. One download that makes you laugh *and* learn. No boring grammar tables. No corporate small talk. Just real English, wrapped in the kind of humour that lives rent-free in your head.



Wait — What Is This Pack?

You know that feeling when you see a meme and think *"this is my life"* — but in English? That's exactly where the learning happens. This pack takes six very relatable memes and uses them to teach six real grammar points. No meme was harmed in the making of this resource.

- 📄 🎯 **Three goals for this pack:** (1) Recognise key grammar structures in natural, funny English. (2) Understand *why* the joke works — because grammar is doing the heavy lifting. (3) Start using these structures yourself, in your own words.

How to Use This Pack



Look at the meme

Read the caption. Laugh (optional but encouraged). Ask yourself: what's the joke? What's the surprising part?



Learn the grammar

Cards 3 and 4 explain the structures in plain English, with natural examples and short Spanish notes where helpful.



Try it yourself

Card 5 has exercises. Card 6 asks you to create your own caption. Card 7 has the answers — no peeking early!

Meet the Six Memes

Each caption below is a little joke about everyday life. None of them are meant to be taken completely literally — that's the point. Exaggeration (*hyperbole*) is one of English humour's favourite tools. When you understand *why* it's funny, you understand the grammar.

1 📁 Too Many Tabs

"I have too many tabs open. Three are in my browser."

Grammar: too many + plural countable nouns

2 🎵 Productivity Playlist

"I was going to be productive. Then I made a productivity playlist."

Grammar: was going to vs. past event

3 🔒 Strong Password

"My password is strong. My memory isn't."

Grammar: adjective contrast with short answer

4 ☕ Face Update

"I've already had coffee. My face hasn't received the update."

Grammar: already / yet with present perfect

5 🗂️ Tidy Desk

"If I tidy my desk, will my life organise itself?"

Grammar: first conditional

6 ☕ Break from Breaks

"I need a break from planning my breaks."

Grammar: need + noun / from + -ing

The Grammar Behind the Joke

Let's slow down and look at exactly what these captions are doing. Good news: the grammar here is stuff you can use every single day — at work, in messages, in conversation. The memes just make it memorable.

Meme 1 — "I have too many tabs open. Three are in my browser."

🔑 The Structure: too many + plural countable noun

Use **too many** before things you can count individually: tabs, problems, ideas, emails, thoughts, alarms. The word **too** means "more than is good" — it's always a problem, not just a large number.

Compare:

✅ I have **many** ideas. (neutral — great!)

⚠️ I have **too many** ideas. (I can't focus — problem!)

More natural examples:

"She has too many meetings on Mondays."

"There are too many steps in this process."

"He bought too many notebooks. He never writes in them."

😊 Why Is It Funny?

The joke is an **understatement reveal**. The speaker says they have *too many tabs open* — and we assume they mean stress, overwhelm, too much on their mind. Then the punchline admits: actually, only three are tabs on a screen. The "too many" was emotional, not literal. We laugh because we feel it too.

🇪🇸 En español

Too many = demasiados/demasiadas. Se usa con sustantivos contables en plural. *Too much* se usa con incontables: *too much stress*, *too much coffee*.

👉 Try saying it:

"I have too many _____ open right now." (tabs / worries / group chats / excuses)

Meme 2 — "I was going to be productive. Then I made a productivity playlist."

🔑 The Structure: was/were going to

Was going to describes an intention in the past — something you planned or intended to do, but (usually) didn't. It tells us about your plan *before* something else happened.

Pattern: Subject + **was/were going to** + base verb

"I **was going to** call her."

"We **were going to** leave early."

"He **was going to** study. Then Netflix updated."

The second sentence (in simple past) shows what *actually* happened instead. That contrast is where the comedy lives.

😊 Why Is It Funny?

Making a *productivity playlist* feels like work. It has the word "productivity" in the title! But it's really just procrastination in disguise. The joke gently mocks how we trick ourselves — and the grammar (*was going to*) perfectly captures that gap between intention and reality.

🇪🇸 En español

Was going to = iba a (hacer algo). "Iba a ser productivo/a. Luego hice una lista de reproducción."

👉 Try saying it:

"I was going to _____, but then I _____."

Meme 3 — "My password is strong. My memory isn't."

🔑 The Structure: Adjective contrast + short negative

This caption uses two short sentences placed side by side to create contrast. The second sentence uses a **short negative answer** — we drop the adjective and just use the auxiliary verb in negative form.

Pattern:

"My X is [adjective]. My Y **isn't**." (isn't = is not)

More examples:

"My alarm is loud. My motivation **isn't**."

"Her presentation was clear. Her slides **weren't**."

"The recipe looks easy. My cooking **doesn't**."

😊 Why Is It Funny?

The joke uses a **tech metaphor** to describe a very human problem. Your password has to be strong — at least 12 characters, a symbol, a number, an uppercase letter. But your brain? It forgets it the moment you log out. The contrast between the confident first sentence and the defeated second one lands perfectly because the structure is so clean and quick.

🇪🇸 En español

En inglés, las respuestas cortas repiten el verbo auxiliar: "*Is it strong?*" "*Yes, it is / No, it isn't.*" No repetimos el adjetivo. Esto es diferente al español, donde solemos repetir el adjetivo o decir "sí/no" solo.

The Grammar, Continued — Plus a Story

We've done memes 1-3. Now let's finish the grammar for memes 4, 5, and 6 — and then see all six structures working together in a short, completely fictional story. Meet Valentina. She's having a very relatable Monday.

Meme 4 — "I've already had coffee. My face hasn't received the update."

🔑 already and yet with the present perfect

Already = something happened sooner than expected (or sooner than people think). Use it in positive sentences.

Yet = something expected hasn't happened. Use it in negatives and questions.

Pattern:

"I've **already** done it." ✅ (positive)

"She hasn't called **yet**." ❌ (negative)

"Have you eaten **yet**?" ❓ (question)

In the meme: *already* = the coffee went in. *Hasn't received the update* = the face (and the mood) hasn't changed yet. Both use present perfect.

🇪🇸 En español

Already = ya. *Yet* = todavía no / aún. "Ya tomé café. Mi cara no ha recibido la actualización."

😄 Why Is It Funny?

The second sentence is a tech joke: your body is a device that needs to *sync*. The coffee is the update file. Your face is still loading. Anyone who has ever sat blank-faced at a morning meeting has lived this. The humour comes from treating a very human feeling (being slow to wake up) as if it were a software problem. The grammar contrast — *already* (done!) vs. *hasn't* (not yet!) — drives the punchline.

🗣️ Try saying it:

"I've already _____, but my _____ hasn't _____ yet."

Meme 5 — "If I tidy my desk, will my life organise itself?"

🔑 The First Conditional

The first conditional talks about a **real or possible future situation** and its likely result.

Pattern: If + present simple → will + base verb

"If I tidy my desk, **will** my life organise itself?"

"If she studies tonight, she **will** pass tomorrow."

"If you rest, you **will** feel better."

Notice: we use **present simple** in the *if* clause — never *will*. The *will* goes in the result clause.

🇪🇸 En español

Primer condicional: *Si* + presente de indicativo → futuro simple. "Si ordeno mi escritorio, ¿se organizará mi vida sola?" El error común: poner *will* después de *if* — ¡no se hace en inglés!

😄 Why Is It Funny?

The joke is about magical thinking — the belief that one small action will fix everything else. We all know tidying one desk won't solve our problems. But the question is asked sincerely, which makes it funny. The first conditional is perfect here: it's a real, possible action (*if I tidy*) with an absurdly optimistic hoped-for result (*will my life organise itself?*).

🗣️ Try saying it:

"If I _____, will _____?"

"If I go to bed early, will I become a morning person?"

Meme 6 — "I need a break from planning my breaks."

🔑 need + noun / need + a break from + -ing

Need is followed by a noun or by the infinitive. In this meme, we see: **need + noun** (a break) + **from + verb-ing** (planning).

Pattern:

"I need **a break**." (need + noun)

"I need **a break from working**." (need + noun + from + -ing)

"She needs **a rest from travelling**."

"They need **a holiday from their holiday**."

😄 Why Is It Funny?

The humour is circular — you're so busy planning rest that the planning itself is exhausting. It's a loop. The structure *a break from [doing something]* is a very common and natural English phrase, and the joke works because the thing you need a break *from* is itself supposed to be relaxing. Perfect chaos. Very relatable.

🇪🇸 En español

Need + noun: necesitar algo. *From + -ing*: de + infinitivo. "Necesito un descanso de planear mis descansos." Nota: en inglés, después de preposición usamos *-ing*, no el infinitivo.

📖 A Short Story: Valentina's Monday

Read this short story. Can you spot all six grammar structures? They are **highlighted in bold**.

It is 8:47 a.m. Valentina opens her laptop. She has **too many tabs open** — well, four are about recipes and one is her actual work document, but still.

"I **was going to** start at eight," she tells her cat, Mango. "Then I updated my planner." Mango does not care.

Her morning coffee is in her hand. **She's already had** it. Her enthusiasm for the day **hasn't arrived yet**.

She looks at her desk. Papers everywhere. "If I tidy this desk, **will** my whole morning **organise itself**?" She decides to try. Twenty minutes later, the papers are in a neat pile — in the corner of the room. Progress.

Her phone password is **strong**. Her memory **isn't**. She resets it for the third time this week.

By 11 a.m., Valentina realises something. "**I need a break**," she says. Then she opens a new tab to research the best break-time routines. "**I need a break from planning my breaks**," she adds quietly.

Mango yawns. He gets it.

Six Quick Exercises

Choose the correct word or form. Write your answers in the spaces provided. Take your time — there's no timer, no pressure, and no one is watching. Answers are on the last card.



How to use this page: Read each sentence carefully. Look at the options in brackets. Choose one. For question 6, you get to write your own caption — there is no single right answer, just good ones!

1 Too (much / many) tabs

Choose the correct word: *"I have too _____ tabs open right now."*

much / many

Your answer: _____

2 I was going (be / to be) productive

Choose the correct form: *"I was going _____ productive. Then I reorganised my bookshelf."*

be / to be

Your answer: _____

3 My memory (isn't / don't)

Choose the correct form: *"My alarm clock is reliable. My memory _____."*

isn't / don't

Your answer: _____

4 I've already (have / had) coffee

Choose the correct form: *"I've already _____ breakfast, but I'm still thinking about lunch."*

have / had

Your answer: _____

5 If I tidy my desk, I (will / would) feel better

Choose the correct word: *"If I go to bed early tonight, I _____ feel amazing tomorrow."*

will / would

Your answer: _____

6 Write your own caption using *need*

Complete this caption in your own words. Use the structure: **I need a _____ from _____-ing.**

Your caption: _____

Now Use It — In Your Own Words

You've seen the grammar. You've read the story. Now it's your turn to speak and write. These tasks are low-stakes and high-fun. There is no single perfect answer. The goal is to *use the language*, not to be perfect.

Speaking Task: The Monday Morning Report

Imagine it's Monday morning. You are telling a friend (or your cat) about your weekend plans versus what actually happened. Speak for 60–90 seconds. Use at least **three** of the six grammar structures from this pack.

Useful phrases to get you started:

- "I was going to... but then..."
- "I already... but I haven't... yet."
- "I have too many... and not enough..."
- "If I... , will I...?"
- "I need a break from..."

Planning space — notes only, not a script:

What did you plan? _____

What actually happened? _____

How do you feel now? _____

✓ Success checklist:

- I spoke for at least 60 seconds
- I used "was going to" correctly
- I used at least two other structures
- I didn't stop to translate every word
- I kept going even when I made a mistake

Writing Task: Your Own Meme Caption

Write a short two-sentence meme caption about your own life. It can be funny, honest, or both. Use **one or more** of the grammar structures from this pack. Your caption doesn't have to be a masterpiece — it just has to be *yours*.

Think about: Something in your daily life that feels a little ridiculous. Your phone, your sleep, your to-do list, your relationship with snacks...

Your caption draft:

Line 1: _____

Line 2: _____

Which grammar structure did you use? _____

Why is it (a little bit) funny? _____

Bonus Meme: The One We Didn't Plan



Caption:

"I have too many apps for organising my life. None of them are organised."

Grammar note:

This one uses **too many + plural noun** (apps) — the same structure as Meme 1! The second sentence uses a **negative with none**: *"None of them are organised."* *None of them* = not one of them. It's stronger and funnier than just saying "they aren't organised."

En español

None of them = ninguna de ellas. Se usa con verbo en plural en inglés informal: *none of them are* (aunque formalmente se dice *none of them is*).

Edit the caption: Can you write a version about your own life? What do you have too many of?

Answer Key + Model Responses

Here are the answers for Card 5, plus model responses for the speaking and writing tasks on Card 6. Remember: for open tasks, these are *examples* of good answers — not the only correct ones. Your version is just as valid if it uses the grammar correctly and makes sense.

✓ Exercise Answers

1 → many

Use **too many** with plural countable nouns: tabs, emails, problems, ideas. Use **too much** with uncountable nouns: stress, time, noise, coffee. *Tabs* is countable and plural, so **many** is correct.

2 → to be

The structure is **was/were going to + base verb**. We always need *to* before the base verb here: *going to be*, *going to study*, *going to call*. Without *to*, the sentence is incomplete.

3 → isn't

The subject is *my memory* — singular and third person. The verb in the first sentence is *is* (My alarm clock *is* reliable), so the short negative repeats the auxiliary: **isn't**. *Don't* is wrong here because it pairs with action verbs, not *be*.

4 → had

Present perfect = **have/has + past participle**. The past participle of *have* is **had**. "I've already had breakfast" = I ate breakfast (and it's relevant now). "I've" is short for "I have" — the auxiliary. We don't repeat it.

5 → will

First conditional: **If + present simple, will + base verb**. The *if* clause is already given (*If I go to bed early tonight*), so the result clause needs **will**. *Would* belongs to the second conditional (for imaginary or unlikely situations), not the first.

6 → Open answer

Model answer: **"I need a holiday from choosing a holiday."**
Any sentence using *need + noun + from + verb-ing* correctly is a great answer. For example: "I need a rest from resting." / "I need a break from reading about productivity." / "I need a nap from deciding when to nap."

🗣️ Model Speaking Response

"OK so, this weekend. I **was going to** clean my whole flat — like, deep clean, windows and everything. Then I found a documentary about competitive dog grooming and that was basically my Saturday. I **already** bought the cleaning products. They **haven't moved** from the bag **yet**. I also have **too many** notifications on my phone right now — I turned off the sound but that didn't help. **If I turn my phone face down, will** my focus come back? Probably not. But I'll try. I honestly **need a break from** making plans to do things I never do."

Notice: this response is natural, slightly imperfect, and uses five of the six structures. That's excellent. You don't have to use every structure every time — use what fits.

✍️ Model Writing Response

"My to-do list is long. My done list isn't."

This uses **adjective contrast + short negative** (Meme 3 structure). It's short, punchy, and painfully relatable. A great meme caption doesn't need to be long. Two strong sentences beat one long paragraph every time.

🌀 Quick Recap — Six Structures to Keep

too many + noun

Too many tabs. Too many alarms. Too many ideas.

was going to

I was going to study. Then I reorganised my pencil case.

X is [adj]. Y isn't.

My plan is great. My energy isn't.

already / not yet

I've already started. It hasn't finished yet.

If I..., will I...?

If I make a schedule, will I follow it?

need a break from -ing

I need a break from deciding what to watch.

Keep laughing. Keep learning. You're doing better than you think. 🤖