

An if statement is a simple idea, best explained by an example:

Take this question. The answer could be yes or no (it could be other things as well but lets keep it simple)

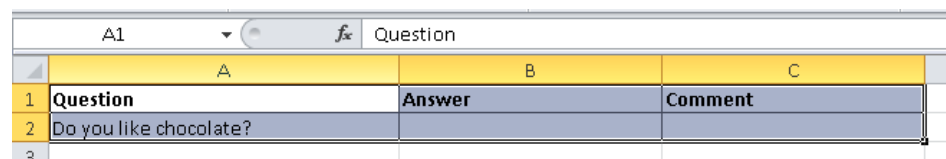
Question	Answer	Comment
Do you like chocolate?	yes	

An if statement lets us do something, such as make a comment, based upon the answer.

If the answer is yes, then our comment should say “mmm chocolate”, otherwise it should say “what really?”

So to shorten that: if answer=“yes”, comment is “mm chocolate”, otherwise comment is “what really”

Now to look at how to write it:



	A	B	C
1	Question	Answer	Comment
2	Do you like chocolate?		
3			

Answer is in cell b2

Comment is in c2.

To use an if statement to make the comment you would write the if statement into c2

The statement is:

=if(b2="yes","mm chocolate","what really")

Lets just check you understand the different parts..

=if(b2="yes" ,"mm chocolate","what really")

This first bit is the test, it is the bit that determines what happens, in this case it means if the answer is yes. Note how the word yes has “ ” this is because it is a piece of text

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=if(b2="yes" ,"mm chocolate","what really")
```

This second bit is what we want it to say if the test is true, if b2 (the answer)does = "yes". Notice how there is a , to separate it from the test section at the start, notice also that because it is using text it has " "

```
=if(b2="yes" ,"mm chocolate","what really")
```

This third bit is what we want it to say if the test is not true, if b2 (the answer)does NOT = "yes". Eg it is "no", or anything that isn't "yes".

Notice how there is a , to separate it from the true section at the start, notice also that because it is using text it has " "

Be aware that You don't have to use text at all in an if statement for example

What is 5 +5 , put your answer in cell b2

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=if(b2=10,1,0)
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This if statement would check to see if the answer in b2 was 10, and give 1 mark if it was (correct) and 0 if it wasn't (wrong)