



Answers

1. a) on
2. b) was
3. d) that
4. b) that
5. c) It
6. d) that
7. c) in London
8. d) was
9. a) that
10. b) It
11. c) because
12. d) that
13. a) because
14. b) that
15. a) but
16. d) but
17. b) who
18. a) was
19. c) that
20. c) that



Explanations

1. “on” (a)

Days of the week take the preposition 'on'. The cleft sentence emphasises the specific day: 'It was on Tuesday that ...'.

2. “was” (b)

The graduation happened in the past, so the cleft sentence needs past tense 'was'. 'It was in 2019 that ...' emphasises the year.

3. “that” (d)

In an it-cleft sentence, 'that' connects the emphasised element to the rest of the clause. Here the focus is on the time period 'during the summer'.

4. “that” (b)

'That' is the standard connector in it-cleft sentences. The cleft emphasises the recency of the discovery.

5. “It” (c)

It-cleft sentences always begin with 'It'. 'It was at midnight that ...' emphasises the time of the event.

6. “that” (d)

In an it-cleft, 'that' links the emphasised place to the clause. 'It was in Paris that ...' stresses the location.

7. “in London” (c)

The preposition 'in' is used with cities. The cleft emphasises the place: 'It was in London that the Games were held'.

8. “was” (d)

The realisation happened in the past, so 'was' is needed. 'It was at the station that ...' emphasises the place of the realisation.

9. “that” (a)

'That' is required to connect the emphasised place to the rest of the cleft clause. The focus is on the library as a place.

10. “It” (b)

It-cleft sentences must begin with 'It'. 'It was in Japan that ...' emphasises the country where the learning took place.

11. “because” (c)

In a reason cleft, only 'because' fits the pattern 'It was because ... that ...'. This structure emphasises the reason for missing the exam.

12. “that” (d)

'That' completes the it-cleft after the emphasised reason phrase 'for this reason'. The structure stresses the cause for action.

13. “because” (a)

'Because' introduces the reason in a cleft sentence: 'It is because ... that ...'. The emphasis is on the reason for his success.

14. “that” (b)

'That' connects the reason to the outcome in an it-cleft. The sentence emphasises the heavy rain as the cause of the cancellation.

15. “but” (a)

'Not ... but' is used in cleft sentences to contrast two elements. The emphasis is on the humidity, not the heat.

16. “but” (d)

The 'not ... but' pattern contrasts two focused elements in a cleft. The sentence emphasises happiness over money.

17. “who” (b)

Use 'who' after a person in an it-cleft. Here 'Mary' is the subject of 'won', so the subject form 'who' is correct, not object 'whom'.

18. “was” (a)

The it-cleft pattern is 'It was + focus + who/that ...'. 'Was' is needed to complete the structure emphasising the manager.

19. “that” (c)

'That' links the emphasised element (his laziness) to the verb. Use 'that' for things and abstract nouns in it-cleft sentences.

20. “that” (c)

'That' is the connector in an it-cleft emphasising the object. The sentence stresses patience as the most important quality needed.