Conditional Comparison: All Conditionals 0 1 2 3 Review: Choose the Right Conditional

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. If you ___ ice in water, it floats.
   a) will put
   c) would put
   b) put
   d) had put

2. If I ___ enough money, I'll buy a new phone.
   a) saved
   c) save
   b) would save
   d) had saved

3. If he had taken the medicine, he ___ better now.
   a) would feel
   c) feels
   b) will feel
   d) would have felt

4. If she ___ harder, she would have passed the test.
   a) studied
   c) would study
   b) studies
   d) had studied

5. If it ___ below zero, water turns to ice.
   a) falls
   c) fell
   b) will fall
   d) would fall

6. If we lived near the sea, we ___ swimming every weekend.
   a) will go
   c) go
   b) would go
   d) had gone

7. If we don't leave now, we ___ the flight.
   a) would miss
   c) will miss
   b) missed
   d) miss

8. If I ___ about the surprise, I wouldn't have told anyone.
   a) know
   c) would know
   b) knew
   d) had known

9. You get wet if you ___ in the rain without an umbrella.
   a) walk
   c) will walk
   b) walked
   d) would walk

10. If he ___ so rude, he would have more friends.
    a) isn't
    c) hadn't been
    b) weren't
    d) won't be

11. If they had saved more money, they ___ a house by now.
   a) will own
                     b) would have owned
   c) would own
                     d) owned

12. If it rains this afternoon, we ___ inside.
   a) stayed
                     b) would stay
   c) stay
                     d) will stay

13. If she ___ breakfast this morning, she wouldn't have been so hungry at lunch.
   a) had eaten
                     b) ate
   c) would eat
                     d) eats

14. If you touch a hot stove, you ___ yourself.
   a) would burn
                     b) burn
   c) will burn
                     d) burned

15. If I ___ more time, I would learn to play the piano.
   a) will have
                     b) have
   c) had
                     d) had had

16. If she hadn't missed the train, she ___ here with us now.
   a) will be
                     b) would have been
   c) is
                     d) would be

17. If he weren't so clumsy, he ___ the vase yesterday.
   a) wouldn't have broken
                     b) won't break
   c) doesn't break
                     d) wouldn't break

18. If you study regularly this term, you ___ your English fast.
   a) improved
                     b) will improve
   c) would improve
                     d) improve

19. If they hadn't cancelled the concert, we ___ there last night.
   a) would be
                     b) will be
   c) would have been
                     d) are

20. If I ___ the answer, I would tell you.
   a) know
                     b) had known
   c) will know
                     d) knew

Answers

1. b) put
2. c) save
3. a) would feel
4. d) had studied
5. a) falls
6. b) would go
7. c) will miss
8. d) had known
9. a) walk
10. b) weren't
11. c) would own
12. d) will stay
13. a) had eaten
14. b) burn
15. c) had
16. d) would be
17. a) wouldn't have broken
18. b) will improve
19. c) would have been
20. d) knew

Explanations

1. "put" (b)

This is a zero conditional — a scientific fact that is always true. Ice always floats in water. Zero conditional: 'If + present simple, present simple'. 'Will put' would make it first conditional (specific prediction), but this is a permanent physical law.

2. "save" (c)

The contracted 'I'll' (I will) in the result clause tells us this is a first conditional — a real future possibility. The speaker believes saving enough money is achievable. First conditional: 'If + present simple (save), will + base verb'. 'Saved' would create a second conditional (imaginary).

3. "would feel" (a)

This is a mixed conditional (Type 3→2). 'Had taken' (past perfect) is the unreal past action, and 'now' signals a present result. Past cause → present result = 'would feel'. 'Would have felt' would describe a past result (pure third conditional), but 'now' makes it present.

4. "had studied" (d)

This is a third conditional. The result 'would have passed' tells us we're talking about an unreal past situation. She didn't study hard enough, and she didn't pass. Third conditional: 'If + past perfect (had studied), would have + past participle'. 'Studied' (past simple) would be second conditional, but the third conditional result confirms past perfect is needed.

5. "falls" (a)

This is a zero conditional about a scientific fact — water always turns to ice below zero. Zero conditional: 'If + present simple (falls), present simple (turns)'. Both clauses describe what always happens. 'Fell' would make it second conditional (imaginary), but freezing water is a real, proven fact.

6. "would go" (b)

This is a second conditional — an imaginary present situation. We DON'T live near the sea, so we're imagining a different reality. 'Lived' (past simple) in the if-clause + 'would go' (would + base verb) in the result = second conditional. 'Will go' (first conditional) would suggest living near the sea is a real plan.

7. "will miss" (c)

This is a first conditional — a real and urgent warning about a specific flight. 'Don't leave' (present simple) in the if-clause + 'will miss' in the result = first conditional for a real possibility. 'Would miss' (second conditional) would imply the situation is imaginary, but this is a genuine warning.

8. "had known" (d)

This is a third conditional. The result 'wouldn't have told' (would have + past participle) confirms we're talking about the past. The speaker DID know and DID tell someone. Third conditional: 'If + past perfect (had known)'. 'Knew' (past simple) would be second conditional, but the third conditional result requires past perfect.

9. "walk" (a)

This is a zero conditional — a general truth that is always true. Walking in the rain without an umbrella always results in getting wet. Zero conditional: 'present simple + if + present simple'. Note that the if-clause can come at the end of the sentence.

10. "weren't" (b)

This is a second conditional — an imaginary present situation. He IS rude (present state) and he DOESN'T have many friends (present result). 'Weren't' is the subjunctive form for the if-clause, and 'would have' means 'would possess' (present hypothetical). 'Hadn't been' (past perfect) would make it third conditional, but the result is about the present.

11. "would own" (c)

This is a mixed conditional (Type 3→2). 'Had saved' (past perfect) describes an unreal past action, and 'by now' signals a present result. Past cause → present result = 'would own'. 'Would have owned' (third conditional) would describe a past result, but 'by now' tells us the result is about the current moment.

12. "will stay" (d)

This is a first conditional — a real possibility about this specific afternoon. 'Rains' (present simple) + 'will stay' = first conditional. The speaker considers rain a real possibility. 'Would stay' (second conditional) would imply rain is unlikely or imaginary, but 'this afternoon' suggests a real plan.

13. "had eaten" (a)

This is a third conditional. 'Wouldn't have been' in the result clause confirms we're talking about the past. She didn't eat breakfast (past), so she was hungry at lunch (past). Third conditional: 'If + past perfect (had eaten), would have + past participle'. 'Ate' (past simple) would be second conditional, not matching the third conditional result.

14. "burn" (b)

This is a zero conditional — a general truth and warning. Touching a hot stove always results in a burn. Zero conditional: 'If + present simple (touch), present simple (burn)'. 'Will burn' (first conditional) would suggest a specific one-time situation, but this is a permanent cause-and-effect relationship.

15. "had" (c)

This is a second conditional — an imaginary present situation. The speaker doesn't have enough time right now. 'Had' (past simple) is the second conditional form. The result 'would learn' (would + base verb) confirms this is about the present, not the past. 'Had had' (past perfect) would make it third conditional.

16. "would be" (d)

This is a mixed conditional (Type 3→2). 'Hadn't missed' (past perfect) is the unreal past action, and 'now' signals a present result. Past cause → present result = 'would be'. 'Would have been' would describe a past result (third conditional), but 'now' clearly makes the result present.

17. "wouldn't have broken" (a)

This is a mixed conditional (Type 2→3). 'Weren't so clumsy' describes a permanent present trait — he IS clumsy. 'Yesterday' tells us the result is about the past. Present trait → past consequence = 'wouldn't have broken'. 'Wouldn't break' (second conditional) would describe a present/future result, but 'yesterday' makes it past.

18. "will improve" (b)

This is a first conditional — a real prediction about a specific period ('this term'). 'Will improve' shows a confident prediction about what will happen if you study. First conditional: 'If + present simple, will + base verb'. 'Improve' (zero conditional) describes a general truth, but 'this term' makes it a specific future prediction.

19. "would have been" (c)

This is a third conditional — both clauses are about the past. The concert was cancelled (past) and we weren't there (past). 'Last night' confirms the past time frame. Third conditional result: 'would have been'. 'Would be' would suggest a present result (mixed conditional), but 'last night' makes it clearly past.

20. "knew" (d)

This is a second conditional — an imaginary present situation. The speaker does NOT know the answer right now. 'Knew' (past simple) is the second conditional form. The result 'would tell' (would + base verb) confirms this is about the present. 'Had known' (past perfect) would make it third conditional, but 'would tell' (not 'would have told') confirms second conditional.