



Answers

1. b) would be
2. a) would be living
3. d) wouldn't be
4. a) could
5. b) hadn't drunk
6. d) wouldn't be
7. c) hadn't opened
8. a) might have
9. a) would know
10. b) would speak
11. c) would be
12. a) had sent
13. b) wouldn't be
14. d) might not be
15. c) had worked
16. a) would be
17. c) would
18. b) wouldn't be
19. d) had bought
20. c) would be running



Explanations

1. “would be” (b)

This is a Type 3→2 mixed conditional: the if-clause uses past perfect (had studied) for an unreal past, and the result clause uses 'would + base verb' for a present result. You didn't study medicine, so you are not a doctor now.

2. “would be living” (a)

The past perfect (had taken) shows an unreal past action. The result uses 'would be + -ing' because the present result is an ongoing situation — living in London right now.

3. “wouldn't be” (d)

The result clause describes a present state (being lost now), so we use 'wouldn't be' — not 'wouldn't have been' (which would describe a past result). The if-clause uses past perfect for the unreal past action.

4. “could” (a)

The modal 'could' (without 'have') shows present ability — Tom would be able to afford a car now. 'Could have' would mean a past ability, which doesn't match the present result.

5. “hadn't drunk” (b)

The if-clause needs past perfect (hadn't drunk) because it describes an unreal past action. The result clause uses 'wouldn't be' for the present consequence. 'Didn't drink' is past simple — wrong tense for mixed conditionals.

6. “wouldn't be” (d)

'Right now' signals a present result, so we need 'wouldn't be' — not 'wouldn't have been'. They didn't leave earlier (past), so they are stuck in traffic (present).

7. “hadn't opened” (c)

The if-clause uses past perfect (hadn't opened) for the unreal past event. The room is cold now (present result) because he opened the window earlier (past cause).

8. “might have” (a)

'Might have' (without a past participle after it) expresses present possibility: we might have better seats right now. 'At the moment' confirms the present time frame. 'Might have had' would describe a past result.

9. “would know” (a)

The result is about the present — she doesn't know the answer now. So we use 'would know' (present result), not 'would have known' (past result). She didn't pay attention (past cause).

10. “would speak” (b)

Being born in France is an unreal past event (past perfect). Speaking French fluently is a present ability that would result from that past event, so we use 'would speak'.

11. “would be” (c)

'Today' marks the present time frame. He missed the flight (past), so he isn't here now (present). The result clause uses 'would be' for the present consequence.

12. “had sent” (a)

The if-clause needs past perfect (had sent) to describe the unreal past action. Your boss is angry now (present result) because you didn't send the email (past cause).

13. “wouldn't be” (b)

'Now' tells us the result is in the present, so we use 'wouldn't be'. They didn't eat breakfast (past), so they are hungry now (present). This is a classic Type 3→2 mixed conditional.

14. “might not be” (d)

'Now' signals a present result, so we need 'might not be' — expressing present possibility. 'Might not have been' would describe a past state, which doesn't match 'now'. This is a Type 3→2 mixed conditional with 'might' instead of 'would'.

15. “had worked” (c)

The if-clause requires past perfect (had worked) for the unreal past situation. The result clause 'would have a better job now' describes the present consequence of that past action.

16. “would be” (a)

'Still working there' describes an ongoing present situation. The company went bankrupt in the past (unreal past with past perfect), affecting where we work now (present result).

17. “would” (c)

'Today' signals a present result. 'Would feel' (would + base verb) is correct for the present consequence. 'Would have felt' would describe a past result, which doesn't match 'today'.

18. “wouldn't be” (b)

The present result is about your current interest in astronomy. You lent me the book in the past (past cause), and now I'm interested (present result). 'Wouldn't be' fits the present time frame.

19. “had bought” (d)

'Last year' confirms the past time frame of the if-clause, requiring past perfect (had bought). 'Now' confirms the present result — they could sell it for a profit at the current time.

20. “would be running” (c)

'This weekend' points to a present/near-future result. 'Would be running' (would be + -ing) describes the ongoing activity that would be happening now. 'Would have run' would describe a completed past event.