

12. If it ___ possible, I would travel back in time.
a) is
b) were
c) will be
d) has been
13. If I were you, I ___ accept that offer. The conditions are terrible.
a) wouldn't
b) don't
c) won't
d) didn't
14. If there ___ no homework, students would have more free time.
a) is
b) will be
c) has been
d) were
15. ___ I in your shoes, I would apologise immediately.
a) If
b) Were
c) Was
d) Am
16. If life ___ fair, everyone would have the same opportunities.
a) is
b) will be
c) were
d) was
17. If I were you, I ___ study harder for the final exam.
a) will
b) would
c) am going to
d) can
18. ___ it not for the rain, we would have the wedding outside.
a) If
b) Was
c) Is
d) Were
19. If I were you, I ___ think twice before quitting your job.
a) would
b) will
c) do
d) can
20. If the rent ___ so high, more people would live in the city centre.
a) isn't
b) won't be
c) weren't
d) hasn't been



Answers

1. c) were
2. d) were
3. a) were
4. b) would sell
5. a) were
6. d) would be
7. b) wouldn't
8. c) were
9. d) would tell
10. a) were
11. c) would go
12. b) were
13. a) wouldn't
14. d) were
15. b) Were
16. c) were
17. b) would
18. d) Were
19. a) would
20. c) weren't



Explanations

1. “were” (c)

'If I were you' is the standard form for giving advice in the second conditional. The subjunctive 'were' is preferred over 'was' for all persons in formal English. Although 'was' is heard in casual speech, 'were' is considered more correct.

2. “were” (d)

'If she were here' uses the subjunctive 'were', not 'is' or 'was'. She isn't here — this is an imaginary situation. 'Were' is used for all persons with 'be' in the second conditional.

3. “were” (a)

'If the weather were warmer' uses subjunctive 'were'. The weather isn't warm now; we're imagining a different situation. Even with third-person subjects, we use 'were' in the second conditional with 'be'.

4. “would sell” (b)

In the pattern 'If I were you, I would...!', the result clause uses 'would + base verb': 'I would sell'. This gives advice about what the speaker thinks is the best action.

5. “were” (a)

In the second conditional, 'were' is the preferred subjunctive form for all persons: 'If I were', 'If he were', 'If it were'. While 'was' is sometimes heard in casual speech, 'were' is the grammatically correct choice.

6. “would be” (d)

The result clause uses 'would + be': 'The project would be more successful'. The if-clause 'if the team were larger' uses subjunctive 'were'. The team isn't large enough — this is imaginary.

7. “wouldn't” (b)

Negative advice: 'If I were you, I wouldn't waste time'. The negative of 'would' is 'wouldn't' (would not). 'Don't' and 'won't' belong to present/first conditional, not second conditional.

8. “were” (c)

'If this house were closer' uses subjunctive 'were'. Although 'was' is used informally, 'were' is the standard choice in the second conditional for the verb 'be' with all subjects.

9. “would tell” (d)

'If I were in your position' is a variation of 'If I were you'. The result clause uses 'would + base verb': 'I would tell'. This gives advice based on an imaginary situation.

10. “were” (a)

'If I were the boss' uses subjunctive 'were'. The speaker is not the boss — this is an imaginary situation. 'Were' is used for all persons in the second conditional with 'be'.

11. “would go” (c)

The advice pattern: 'If I were you, I would go to the doctor'. The result clause uses 'would + base verb' to suggest what the speaker believes is the right action.

12. “were” (b)

'If it were possible' uses subjunctive 'were'. Travelling back in time is completely imaginary — a perfect context for the second conditional with 'were'.

13. “wouldn't” (a)

Negative advice with 'If I were you, I wouldn't...'. The speaker advises against accepting the offer. 'Wouldn't' (would not) is the correct negative form in the second conditional.

14. “were” (d)

'If there were no homework' uses subjunctive 'were'. This imagines a world without homework. Even in existential constructions with 'there', we use 'were' in the second conditional.

15. “Were” (b)

'Were I in your shoes' is a formal inversion of 'If I were in your shoes'. In this structure, 'if' is dropped and 'were' moves to the beginning. This is used in formal writing and speech.

16. “were” (c)

'If life were fair' uses the subjunctive 'were'. Life isn't fair — this is a hypothetical about an ideal world. 'Were' is correct for all subjects in the second conditional with 'be'.

17. “would” (b)

The advice pattern always uses 'would' in the result clause: 'If I were you, I would study harder'. 'Will' and 'can' are not used in the second conditional result clause.

18. “Were” (d)

'Were it not for the rain' is a formal inversion meaning 'If it were not for the rain'. The 'if' is dropped and 'were' moves to the front. This structure is common in formal and literary English.

19. “would” (a)

'If I were you, I would think twice' — the result clause uses 'would'. 'Think twice' means to consider something carefully before acting. This is classic advice-giving with the second conditional.

20. “weren't” (c)

'If the rent weren't so high' uses the negative subjunctive 'weren't' (were not). In the second conditional, the negative of 'were' is 'weren't', not 'isn't' or 'wasn't'.