



Answers

1. a) could have got
2. b) might have seen
3. c) Would
4. c) could have won
5. d) would
6. b) might have lost
7. c) wouldn't have broken
8. b) could have bought
9. d) Would
10. d) might have
11. a) would
12. a) could have attended
13. a) might not have
14. d) would
15. c) could have
16. b) might not have made
17. a) Would
18. b) could have saved
19. c) might have
20. d) would



Explanations

1. “could have got” (a)

'Could have + past participle' expresses past ability or strong possibility: 'she could have got it'. She didn't apply, but she had the ability to get the job. 'Could get' would be second conditional.

2. “might have seen” (b)

'Might have + past participle' expresses a past possibility that didn't happen: 'we might have seen the accident'. It's not certain — just possible. We left on time, so we didn't see it.

3. “Would” (c)

Third conditional questions start with 'Would + subject + have + past participle': 'Would you have accepted?' This asks about an imaginary past decision.

4. “could have won” (c)

'Could have won' means they had the chance to win but didn't because he missed the penalty. 'Could have + past participle' shows a past possibility that was lost.

5. “would” (d)

Wh-questions in the third conditional follow the pattern: 'What would + subject + have done if...?' This asks about a hypothetical past scenario.

6. “might have lost” (b)

'Might have + past participle' expresses a past possibility with uncertainty: 'I might have lost'. The speaker isn't sure of the outcome — it was possible but not certain.

7. “wouldn't have broken” (c)

'Wouldn't have broken' is the negative third conditional result. You weren't careful, so you broke the vase. 'Wouldn't break' is second conditional (present unreal).

8. “could have bought” (b)

'Could have bought' means they had the opportunity to buy but the bank didn't approve the loan. 'Could have + past participle' expresses an unrealised past possibility.

9. “Would” (d)

Yes/No questions in the third conditional: 'Would she have married him if...?' This asks whether a past decision would have been different.

10. “might have” (d)

'Might have crashed' — the pilot did react quickly, preventing a possible crash. 'Might have + past participle' shows that the crash was a real possibility in the past.

11. “would” (a)

Wh-question pattern: 'Where would you have gone if...?' Note the double 'had' in 'had had' — the first is the past perfect auxiliary, and the second is the main verb 'have'.

12. “could have attended” (a)

'Could have attended' means she had the possibility of attending but didn't because she took a later flight. 'Could attend' would be second conditional.

13. “might not have” (a)

'Might not have got' expresses that there was a possibility of not getting a table. We booked in advance, so we secured one. 'Might not have + past participle' shows negative past possibility.

14. “would” (d)

Wh-question: 'How would you have felt if...?' The pattern is always Wh-word + would + subject + have + past participle in third conditional questions.

15. “could have” (c)

'Could have gone' expresses a past opportunity lost because of bad weather. 'Could have + past participle' combines past possibility with the unreal conditional.

16. “might not have made” (b)

'Might not have made' shows that the mistake was possible to avoid but not certain. 'Might' adds uncertainty — even with a warning, you're not 100% sure you wouldn't have made it.

17. “Would” (a)

Yes/No question: 'Would the students have understood if...?' In the third conditional, questions use 'Would + subject + have + past participle'.

18. “could have saved” (b)

'Could have saved' means they had the ability to save the building if they had arrived earlier. They arrived late, so the building was not saved.

19. “might have” (c)

'Might have had an accident' — he drove at a safe speed, so there was no accident. 'Might have + past participle' suggests the accident was a possibility, not a certainty.

20. “would” (d)

Wh-question: 'Who would you have called if...?' This asks about an imaginary past situation. The answer uses the third conditional pattern with 'would have + past participle'.