



Third Conditional: Contractions, Inverted Conditionals & Complex Sentences

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- ___ I known about the delay, I would have taken a different route.
a) Had
b) Have
c) If
d) Would
- She ___ come to the party if she'd known about it. ('d = had)
a) would
b) would have
c) had
d) will have
- Had the manager ___ the report, he would have noticed the error.
a) reading
b) reads
c) read
d) to read
- I'd have told you the news if I'd ___ your number.
a) had
b) have
c) having
d) has
- Had they ___ more time, they would have finished the project before the deadline.
a) have
b) having
c) has
d) had
- If you'd mentioned the problem, we ___ it sooner.
a) could fix
b) can fix
c) fixed
d) could have fixed
- Had the doctor ___ the symptoms correctly, the patient would have recovered faster.
a) diagnose
b) diagnosing
c) diagnosed
d) diagnoses
- We'd have missed the train if we ___ left the house five minutes later.
a) had
b) have
c) would
d) did
- Had it not ___ for your support, I wouldn't have succeeded.
a) been
b) be
c) being
d) was
- She'd have called you if she ___ forgotten her phone at home.
a) didn't
b) hasn't
c) wouldn't
d) hadn't

11. ____ the company invested in new technology, it would have stayed competitive.
a) If
b) Would
c) Had
d) Has
12. If he'd been paying attention, he ____ the warning sign.
a) noticed
b) would notice
c) would have noticed
d) had noticed
13. Had we ____ that the road was closed, we would have chosen a different route.
a) know
b) known
c) knowing
d) knew
14. I'd ____ gone to the concert if the tickets hadn't sold out.
a) had
b) be
c) been
d) have
15. Had she not ____ the door, the cat would have escaped.
a) close
b) closing
c) closed
d) closes
16. They'd have offered you the position if you ____ more experience on your CV.
a) included
b) had included
c) would include
d) have included
17. Had the referee ____ the foul, the goal would have been disallowed.
a) see
b) seen
c) seeing
d) saw
18. If I'd ____ about the sale earlier, I would have bought more.
a) hear
b) heard
c) hearing
d) hears
19. We wouldn't have got lost had we ____ the GPS.
a) use
b) using
c) uses
d) used
20. She'd ____ accepted the invitation if she hadn't already made other plans.
a) have
b) had
c) be
d) has



Answers

1. a) Had
2. b) would have
3. c) read
4. a) had
5. d) had
6. d) could have fixed
7. c) diagnosed
8. a) had
9. a) been
10. d) hadn't
11. c) Had
12. c) would have noticed
13. b) known
14. d) have
15. c) closed
16. b) had included
17. b) seen
18. b) heard
19. d) used
20. a) have



Explanations

1. “Had” (a)

'Had I known' is a formal inverted conditional — it means the same as 'If I had known'. In inverted third conditionals, we drop 'if' and put 'had' before the subject.

2. “would have” (b)

'She would have come' — the contraction 'd in 'she'd known' stands for 'had' (past perfect). The result clause needs 'would have + past participle'.

3. “read” (c)

In inverted conditionals, the structure is 'Had + subject + past participle': 'Had the manager read'. The past participle of 'read' is 'read' (same spelling, different pronunciation: /red/).

4. “had” (a)

Both contractions here: 'I'd have told' = 'I would have told' (result clause); 'if I'd had' = 'if I had had' (if-clause). The first 'd = would; the second 'd = had.

5. “had” (d)

Inverted conditional: 'Had they had more time' = 'If they had had more time'. The double 'had' is correct — the first is the inversion auxiliary and the second is the main verb.

6. “could have fixed” (d)

'Could have fixed' — the contraction 'd in 'you'd mentioned' = 'you had mentioned'. The result uses 'could have + past participle' for past ability/possibility.

7. “diagnosed” (c)

Inverted conditional: 'Had the doctor diagnosed' = 'If the doctor had diagnosed'. After 'Had + subject', we need the past participle.

8. “had” (a)

'We'd have missed' = 'We would have missed' (result). 'If we had left' needs 'had' for the past perfect if-clause. Here 'd = would in the main clause.

9. “been” (a)

'Had it not been for' is a formal expression meaning 'If it hadn't been for' or 'Without'. It uses inverted conditional structure + 'been' (past participle of 'be').

10. “hadn't” (d)

'She'd have called' = 'She would have called'. The if-clause needs negative past perfect: 'if she hadn't forgotten'. She forgot her phone, so she couldn't call.

11. “Had” (c)

'Had the company invested' is an inverted conditional = 'If the company had invested'. In formal English, we can omit 'if' and invert 'had' with the subject.

12. “would have noticed” (c)

'He'd been paying' = 'he had been paying' (past perfect continuous in the if-clause). The result clause uses 'would have + past participle': 'would have noticed'.

13. “known” (b)

Inverted conditional: 'Had we known' = 'If we had known'. After 'Had + subject', use the past participle form. The past participle of 'know' is 'known'.

14. “have” (d)

'I'd have gone' = 'I would have gone'. The contraction 'd here stands for 'would', and 'have' completes the third conditional result clause.

15. “closed” (c)

'Had she not closed' is the negative inverted conditional = 'If she had not closed'. We insert 'not' between the subject and the past participle.

16. “had included” (b)

'They'd have offered' = 'They would have offered'. The if-clause needs past perfect: 'if you had included'. You didn't include it, so you didn't get the offer.

17. “seen” (b)

Inverted conditional: 'Had the referee seen' = 'If the referee had seen'. Past participle of 'see' is 'seen'. The referee didn't see the foul, so the goal stood.

18. “heard” (b)

'If I'd heard' = 'If I had heard'. The contraction 'd = had in the if-clause. I didn't hear about the sale until it was too late.

19. “used” (d)

'Had we used the GPS' is an inverted conditional placed after the result clause. It means 'if we had used the GPS'. The inverted form can come before or after the main clause.

20. “have” (a)

'She'd have accepted' = 'She would have accepted'. In the contracted form 'd + have + past participle, 'd = would. She had other plans, so she didn't accept.