



Fronting: Mixed Fronting Practice

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. ___ the offer was, she decided to decline it and pursue her own business.
a) Though tempting
b) Tempting though
c) Tempting despite
d) Despite tempting
2. At the end of the long driveway ____.
a) stood a magnificent Victorian mansion
b) did stand a magnificent Victorian mansion
c) a magnificent Victorian mansion did stand
d) standing a magnificent Victorian mansion was
3. The easy questions she answered immediately, but the last one ____.
a) left she blank
b) did she leave blank
c) blank she left
d) she left blank
4. ___ the growing evidence that remote work increases employee satisfaction.
a) Is also worth considering
b) Also is worth considering
c) Also worth considering is
d) Worth also considering is
5. Rarely ___ such a compelling performance in amateur theatre.
a) we see
b) do we see
c) see we
d) we do see
6. ___, the students could not complete the experiment within the allotted time.
a) Hurry as they might
b) As they might hurry
c) Might they hurry as
d) Although hurry they might
7. From beneath the rubble ____.
a) did emerge a faint cry for help
b) a faint cry for help did emerge
c) emerging a faint cry for help was
d) emerged a faint cry for help
8. ___ the instructions were confusing, most participants completed the task successfully.
a) Confusing though
b) Confuse as
c) Although
d) Much as confusing
9. ___, the editorial board decided to reject the manuscript.
a) Much as they valued the author's contribution
b) As much they valued the author's contribution
c) They valued much as the author's contribution
d) Despite much they valued the author's contribution
10. ___ the documents that need your signature before Friday.
a) Are enclosed
b) Enclosed are
c) Enclosing are
d) Enclosed is

11. Not until the final whistle ____ that their team had won the championship.
a) the fans realised
b) realised the fans
c) the fans did realise
d) did the fans realise
12. The report itself was thorough, but the recommendations ____.
a) considered the board impractical
b) did the board consider impractical
c) the board considered impractical
d) impractical the board considered
13. Behind the counter ____ patiently for the next customer.
a) stood she
b) she stood
c) did she stand
d) standing she
14. ____ the sharp increase in reported cyberattacks over the past decade.
a) Particularly alarming is
b) Is particularly alarming
c) Particularly is alarming
d) Alarming particularly is
15. ____ the evidence was, the court had no choice but to acquit the defendant.
a) As compelling
b) Despite compelling
c) Although compelling
d) Compelling as
16. The hotel was comfortable, ____ it was a bit overpriced.
a) comfortable though
b) much as
c) although
d) overpriced as
17. Over the garden wall ____ and landed among the rose bushes.
a) flew the cricket ball
b) did fly the cricket ball
c) the cricket ball did fly
d) flying the cricket ball was
18. The researchers repeated the experiment several times ____ they had made no errors in the initial trial.
a) much as
b) to confirm that
c) hard though
d) try as they might
19. The minor delays we could tolerate, but the safety violations ____.
a) did we report immediately
b) reported we immediately
c) we reported immediately
d) immediately we did report
20. Only after reading the contract carefully ____ the hidden clause.
a) she noticed
b) noticed she
c) she did notice
d) did she notice



Answers

1. b) Tempting though
2. a) stood a magnificent Victorian mansion
3. d) she left blank
4. c) Also worth considering is
5. b) do we see
6. a) Hurry as they might
7. d) emerged a faint cry for help
8. c) Although
9. a) Much as they valued the author's contribution
10. b) Enclosed are
11. d) did the fans realise
12. c) the board considered impractical
13. b) she stood
14. a) Particularly alarming is
15. d) Compelling as
16. c) although
17. a) flew the cricket ball
18. b) to confirm that
19. c) we reported immediately
20. d) did she notice



Explanations

1. “Tempting though” (b)

Concessive fronting: 'Tempting though the offer was...' The adjective 'tempting' moves before 'though'. 'Though tempting' reverses the correct order for this pattern.

2. “stood a magnificent Victorian mansion” (a)

Locative fronting with full S-V inversion: 'At the end of the long driveway stood a magnificent Victorian mansion.' The verb 'stood' directly precedes the subject. Do not use auxiliary inversion ('did stand').

3. “she left blank” (d)

In object fronting, the object moves to the front but subject-verb order remains normal: 'the last one she left blank.' There is no inversion after a fronted object — only the object's position changes.

4. “Also worth considering is” (c)

Academic fronting: 'Also worth considering is the growing evidence that...' The adjective phrase is fronted before 'is' + subject. This pattern highlights new information in academic writing.

5. “do we see” (b)

This is NEGATIVE ADVERBIAL INVERSION, not fronting. 'Rarely' triggers subject-auxiliary inversion: 'Rarely do we see...' The auxiliary 'do' moves before the subject. This pattern belongs to inversion, not fronting — know the difference.

6. “Hurry as they might” (a)

Verb fronting with 'as': 'Hurry as they might...' means 'Although they hurried as much as they could'. The base form of the verb is fronted before 'as + Subject + might/may/did'.

7. “emerged a faint cry for help” (d)

Directional fronting: 'From beneath the rubble emerged a faint cry for help.' Full S-V inversion with the intransitive verb 'emerged'. Do not use auxiliary inversion ('did emerge').

8. “Although” (c)

Standard 'Although' is correct here: 'Although the instructions were confusing...' Using 'Confusing though' would create 'Confusing though the instructions were confusing' — repeating the adjective. When the adjective is already in the clause, use a standard conjunction.

9. “Much as they valued the author's contribution” (a)

'Much as they valued...' means 'Although they valued very much...' The fixed pattern is 'Much as + Subject + Verb'. 'As much' reverses the required word order.

10. “Enclosed are” (b)

Predicate participle fronting: 'Enclosed are the documents...' The past participle 'enclosed' is fronted, followed by the plural verb 'are' matching the plural subject 'documents'. Common in formal correspondence.

11. “did the fans realise” (d)

This is NEGATIVE ADVERBIAL INVERSION: 'Not until the final whistle did the fans realise...' 'Not until' triggers subject-auxiliary inversion ('did...realise'), not full S-V inversion ('realised the fans'). This is an inversion pattern, not fronting.

12. “the board considered impractical” (c)

Object fronting keeps normal S-V order: 'the recommendations the board considered impractical.' The fronted object 'the recommendations' changes position, but 'the board considered' follows normal subject-verb order. No inversion occurs.

13. “she stood” (b)

Pronoun subjects do NOT invert in locative fronting: 'Behind the counter she stood patiently...' Compare: 'Behind the counter stood a young shop assistant' (full noun → inversion). Pronouns always keep normal S-V order.

14. “Particularly alarming is” (a)

Academic predicate fronting: 'Particularly alarming is the sharp increase...' The adjective phrase is fronted before 'is' + subject to highlight an important finding.

15. “Compelling as” (d)

Concessive fronting: 'Compelling as the evidence was...' means 'Although the evidence was compelling'. The adjective moves before 'as', followed by S + V.

16. “although” (c)

Standard 'although' works in mid-sentence position: 'The hotel was comfortable, although it was a bit overpriced.' Fronting patterns (comfortable though, much as, overpriced as) go at the beginning of a sentence, not after a comma in the middle.

17. “flew the cricket ball” (a)

Directional fronting: 'Over the garden wall flew the cricket ball...' Full S-V inversion with the verb of motion 'flew'. With a full noun subject, the verb comes directly before the subject.

18. “to confirm that” (b)

This sentence expresses PURPOSE, not concession: 'The researchers repeated the experiment several times to confirm that they had made no errors...' Concessive fronting patterns (much as, hard though, try as they might) express contrast, not purpose.

19. “we reported immediately” (c)

Object fronting uses normal S-V order: 'the safety violations we reported immediately.' The fronted object changes position, but subject-verb order stays the same. No inversion occurs after a fronted object.

20. “did she notice” (d)

This is NEGATIVE ADVERBIAL INVERSION: 'Only after' triggers subject-auxiliary inversion: 'Only after reading the contract carefully did she notice...' The auxiliary 'did' moves before the subject. This is an inversion pattern — compare with fronting, which uses full S-V inversion or no inversion at all.