



Answers

1. b) lived
2. b) was doing
3. a) had left
4. a) closed
5. d) got
6. a) had broken
7. a) had happened
8. b) was
9. d) had said
10. a) exercised
11. d) was crying
12. d) had invited
13. d) meant
14. c) where
15. c) cost
16. c) had happened
17. c) left
18. b) was calling
19. c) had lived
20. b) needed



Explanations

1. “lived” (b)

Remove 'do' and backshift: 'live' becomes 'lived'. The question word order 'where do you live' changes to statement order 'where I lived'. Notice: no auxiliary 'do' in the reported form.

2. “was doing” (b)

Present continuous 'are doing' backshifts to past continuous 'was doing'. Word order changes: 'what are you doing' → 'what I was doing' (subject before verb).

3. “had left” (a)

Remove 'did' and backshift: past simple 'left' becomes past perfect 'had left'. The word order changes from 'why did you leave' to 'why I had left'. Never keep 'did' in a reported question.

4. “closed” (a)

Remove 'does' and backshift: 'close' becomes 'closed'. Word order changes: 'when does the shop close' → 'when the shop closed'. No 'does' in the reported form.

5. “got” (d)

Remove 'do' and backshift: 'get' becomes 'got'. Word order changes from 'how do you get' to 'how I got'. The irregular verb forms are get → got → got.

6. “had broken” (a)

When 'who' is the SUBJECT of the question (who did the action), the word order does NOT change — it is already in statement order. We only need to backshift: 'broke' → 'had broken'. No 'did' is removed because there was no 'did' in the original.

7. “had happened” (a)

'What' is the SUBJECT here (what did the action of happening), so the word order stays the same. Just backshift: 'happened' → 'had happened'. There is no 'did' to remove.

8. “was” (b)

Word order changes: 'where is the nearest bank' → 'where the nearest bank was' (subject before verb). Present simple 'is' backshifts to past simple 'was'.

9. “had said” (d)

Remove 'did' and backshift: 'said' (past simple) becomes 'had said' (past perfect). Word order: 'what did she say' → 'what she had said'.

10. “exercised” (a)

Remove 'do' and backshift: 'exercise' becomes 'exercised'. The question phrase 'how often' stays as a unit: 'how often I exercised'.

11. “was crying” (d)

Word order changes: 'why is she crying' → 'why she was crying' (subject before verb). Present continuous 'is crying' backshifts to past continuous 'was crying'.

12. “had invited” (d)

'Who' is the OBJECT here (you invited someone), so 'did' is removed and word order changes: 'who did you invite' → 'who I had invited'. Past simple 'invited' backshifts to past perfect 'had invited'.

13. “meant” (d)

Remove 'does' and backshift: 'mean' becomes 'meant' (irregular verb). Word order: 'what does this word mean' → 'what that word meant'. Also 'this' changes to 'that'.

14. “where” (c)

This is a wh-question starting with 'where', so the question word 'where' stays in the reported version. We do NOT use 'if' or 'whether' — those are only for yes/no questions.

15. “cost” (c)

Remove 'does' and backshift: 'cost' in past simple is also 'cost' (irregular verb: cost → cost → cost). Word order: 'how much does it cost' → 'how much it cost'.

16. “had happened” (c)

Remove 'did' and backshift: 'happened' (past simple) becomes 'had happened' (past perfect). Word order: 'when did the accident happen' → 'when the accident had happened'.

17. “left” (c)

Remove 'does' and backshift: 'leave' becomes 'left'. The question phrase 'what time' stays together: 'what time the flight left'.

18. “was calling” (b)

'Who' is the SUBJECT (who was doing the calling), so word order stays the same. Just backshift: present continuous 'is calling' → past continuous 'was calling'.

19. “had lived” (c)

Present perfect 'have lived' backshifts to past perfect 'had lived'. Word order: 'how long have you lived' → 'how long I had lived'. Also 'here' changes to 'there'.

20. “needed” (b)

Remove 'do' and backshift: 'need' becomes 'needed'. The pronoun 'I' changes to 'he' because we are reporting his question. Word order: 'which bus he needed to take'.