



Auxiliary Verbs: Mixed Auxiliary Verbs: Advanced Practice

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. I haven't finished the report, but Sarah _____.
a) does
b) haven't
c) has
d) is
2. Tom can't drive, and neither _____ his brother.
a) can
b) does
c) could
d) can't
3. 'I love pizza.' 'So _____ !'
a) does
b) do
c) am
d) love
4. She won't come to the party, and nor _____ her sister.
a) does
b) won't
c) can
d) will
5. By next week, they _____ completed the project.
a) have
b) will
c) will have
d) would have
6. The children _____ not been behaving well lately.
a) has
b) have
c) are
d) do
7. At that moment, the suspect _____ being questioned by two detectives.
a) was
b) is
c) had
d) has
8. _____ the train already left by the time you arrived at the station?
a) Has
b) Did
c) Was
d) Had
9. I _____ my homework every evening before dinner.
a) am
b) have
c) do
d) did
10. She _____ a headache, so she went to bed early.
a) was
b) had
c) did
d) has
11. We _____ been waiting for over an hour when the bus finally appeared.
a) had
b) have
c) were
d) did

12. 'Does she have any experience?' 'Yes, she _____ three years of experience in marketing.'
- a) does
b) is
c) having
d) has
13. She had already left by the time we arrived, _____ she?
- a) didn't
b) had
c) hadn't
d) wasn't
14. 'Had you met him before the conference?' 'Yes, I _____.'
- a) had
b) did
c) have
d) met
15. Everyone said it was impossible, but we _____ succeed in the end.
- a) have
b) were
c) do
d) did
16. You haven't submitted the assignment yet, _____ you?
- a) haven't
b) have
c) did
d) do
17. He used to smoke, _____ he?
- a) usedn't
b) used
c) didn't
d) doesn't
18. She has to work late tonight, _____ she?
- a) hasn't
b) has
c) does
d) doesn't
19. _____ you ever been to Australia?
- a) Haven't
b) Didn't
c) Weren't
d) Don't
20. She said she would help, and she _____.
- a) would
b) did
c) has
d) was



Answers

1. c) has
2. a) can
3. b) do
4. d) will
5. c) will have
6. b) have
7. a) was
8. d) Had
9. c) do
10. b) had
11. a) had
12. d) has
13. c) hadn't
14. a) had
15. d) did
16. b) have
17. c) didn't
18. d) doesn't
19. a) Haven't
20. b) did



Explanations

1. “has” (c)

The original sentence uses the present perfect ('haven't finished'). In ellipsis, we replace the repeated verb phrase with just the auxiliary, matching the new subject. 'Sarah' is third person singular → 'has' (= has finished). Not 'does' (wrong auxiliary — the tense is present perfect, not present simple), not 'haven't' (wrong person and wrong polarity — Sarah HAS finished), not 'is' (wrong auxiliary).

2. “can” (a)

After 'neither', we use the POSITIVE form of the same auxiliary because 'neither' already carries the negative meaning. The original uses 'can't', so we need 'can': 'Neither can his brother' = his brother also can't drive. Not 'can't' (double negative — 'neither can't' is incorrect), not 'does' (wrong auxiliary), not 'could' (wrong tense).

3. “do” (b)

'Love' is a main verb in the present simple. When expressing agreement with 'so', we use the auxiliary that matches the tense and subject. Present simple + first person 'I' → 'do'. 'So do I!' means 'I also love pizza.' Not 'does' (wrong person — 'does' is for third person), not 'am' (wrong auxiliary for present simple), not 'love' (we use an auxiliary in this structure, not the main verb).

4. “will” (d)

Like 'neither', 'nor' already carries negative meaning, so we use the POSITIVE form of the auxiliary. The original uses 'won't' (= will not), so we need 'will': 'Nor will her sister' = her sister also won't come. Not 'won't' (double negative — 'nor won't' is incorrect), not 'does' (wrong auxiliary — the original uses 'will'), not 'can' (wrong modal).

5. “will have” (c)

'By next week' refers to a point in the future, and 'completed' is a past participle. This is the future perfect tense: 'will have' + past participle. It expresses an action that will be finished before a future deadline. Not 'have' (present perfect — no future reference), not 'will' (future simple — 'will completed' is ungrammatical), not 'would have' (conditional, not a definite future plan).

6. “have” (b)

'Lately' signals the present perfect continuous tense: 'have/has been + -ing'. The subject 'children' is plural, so we need 'have'. Not 'has' (singular — would be used with 'the child'), not 'are' (present continuous — 'are not been' is ungrammatical), not 'do' (wrong auxiliary for this tense structure).

7. “was” (a)

'At that moment' refers to a specific point in the past, and 'being questioned' is the past continuous passive structure: 'was/were being + past participle'. The subject 'suspect' is singular → 'was being questioned'. Not 'is' (present tense, not past), not 'had' ('had being' is ungrammatical), not 'has' ('has being' is ungrammatical).

8. “Had” (d)

'By the time you arrived' describes a past reference point, and we're asking about something that happened BEFORE that → past perfect: 'Had the train already left...?' Not 'Has' (present perfect — doesn't match the past context 'arrived'), not 'Did' ('Did the train already left' is ungrammatical — 'did' requires the base form), not 'Was' ('was left' changes the meaning to passive).

9. “do” (c)

Here 'do' is a MAIN verb meaning 'complete' or 'perform'. 'Every evening' signals a habitual present action → present simple. 'I do my homework' is a routine. Not 'am' ('am my homework' is ungrammatical), not 'have' (wrong meaning — 'have my homework' doesn't mean 'complete it'), not 'did' (past tense — doesn't match the habitual present 'every evening').

10. “had” (b)

Here 'have' is a MAIN verb meaning 'experience' or 'suffer from'. The past tense context ('went to bed') tells us it's past → 'had a headache'. Not 'was' ('was a headache' is ungrammatical), not 'did' ('did a headache' doesn't work — 'do' doesn't collocate with 'headache'), not 'has' (present tense — doesn't match the past context).

11. “had” (a)

'When the bus appeared' is a past event, and 'been waiting' signals a continuous action that started before it → past perfect continuous: 'had been waiting'. This shows the waiting was already in progress before the bus came. Not 'have' (present perfect continuous — doesn't match the past context), not 'were' ('were been' is ungrammatical), not 'did' ('did been' is ungrammatical).

12. “has” (d)

The full reply uses 'has' as a MAIN verb meaning 'possesses'. 'She has three years of experience.' Not 'does' (would need 'does have' — incomplete on its own), not 'is' ('is three years of experience' is ungrammatical), not 'having' (not a finite verb — cannot be the main verb of the clause without an auxiliary).

13. “hadn't” (c)

The main clause uses the past perfect 'had left'. Question tags must use the same auxiliary: 'had' → 'hadn't' (negative tag for a positive statement). Not 'didn't' (wrong auxiliary — must match 'had', not 'did'), not 'had' (positive tag on a positive statement is incorrect — tags reverse the polarity), not 'wasn't' (wrong auxiliary).

14. “had” (a)

Short answers repeat the auxiliary from the question. The question uses 'Had you...?' → the answer is 'Yes, I had.' Not 'did' (wrong auxiliary — the question uses 'had', not 'did'), not 'have' (wrong tense — present perfect instead of past perfect), not 'met' (we repeat the auxiliary in short answers, not the main verb).

15. “did” (d)

Emphatic 'did' adds stress to a past action, emphasising that it actually happened despite doubts. 'But we DID succeed' contrasts with 'everyone said it was impossible'. The past tense context ('said', 'was') requires 'did', not present 'do'. Not 'have' ('have succeed' is ungrammatical — would need 'succeeded'), not 'were' ('were succeed' is ungrammatical).

16. “have” (b)

The main clause is negative ('haven't submitted'), so the question tag must be POSITIVE to reverse the polarity → 'have you?' Not 'haven't' (negative tag on a negative statement is incorrect), not 'did' (wrong auxiliary — must match 'have', not 'did'), not 'do' (wrong auxiliary and wrong tense).

17. “didn't” (c)

'Used to' forms its question tag with the auxiliary 'did' in modern English. Positive statement → negative tag: 'didn't he?' Not 'usedn't' (archaic and non-standard — virtually never used in modern English), not 'used' (not a valid tag form), not 'doesn't' (wrong tense — 'used to' refers to the past, so we need 'didn't', not present 'doesn't').

18. “doesn't” (d)

'Has to' expresses obligation and behaves like a MAIN verb, not an auxiliary. The auxiliary for question tags is therefore 'does/doesn't'. Positive statement → negative tag: 'doesn't she?' Not 'hasn't' (wrong — 'hasn't' is the tag for auxiliary 'has' in the present perfect, but here 'has' is part of 'has to'), not 'has' or 'does' (positive tag on a positive statement violates the polarity rule).

19. “Haven't” (a)

'Ever been to' uses the present perfect ('have been'). A negative question with present perfect expresses surprise: 'Haven't you ever been to Australia?' (= I'm surprised you haven't visited). Not 'Didn't' ('Didn't you ever been' is ungrammatical — 'did' requires the base form 'go', not 'been'), not 'Weren't' ('Weren't you ever been' is ungrammatical), not 'Don't' ('Don't you ever been' is ungrammatical).

20. “did” (b)

The ellipsis here confirms that the help actually happened. 'She did' = she did help. We use 'did' (past simple auxiliary) because the action was completed in the past. Not 'would' (this would only repeat the promise — 'she would help' — without confirming it happened), not 'has' (present perfect doesn't match the past narrative context), not 'was' ('was' alone doesn't work here as a substitute for 'helped').