# Mastering It-Cleft Sentences: Agreement and Adverbials

Hard | C1 | Advanced | Clause | Complex sentence | Inversion | Modal verb | Negation | Past tense | Phrase | Preposition | Pronoun | Relative clause | Sentence | Subject | Verb | Perfect tense | Word order

**1.** Help the frustrated theater director explain the disastrous opening night to the press by selecting ALL the grammatically correct sentences that apply.

*Select all that apply.*

- **A)** It was because the lead actor forgot his lines that the audience started laughing.
- **B)** It was the collapsing scenery, rather than the bad acting, that ultimately ruined the show.
- **C)** It was because the lead actor forgot his lines why the audience started laughing.
- **D)** It was the collapsing scenery, rather than the bad acting, what ultimately ruined the show.

**2.** Complete the dramatic CEO's speech to the board of directors.

"Let us get one thing straight. _____ is I who _____ ultimately responsible for the company's success, and it is you who _____ repeatedly doubted my vision!"

*Choose the correct option for each gap.*

**Blank 1**

- **A)** There
- **B)** It
- **C)** This

**Blank 2**

- **A)** is
- **B)** am
- **C)** be

**Blank 3**

- **A)** have
- **B)** has
- **C)** are

**3.** Complete the dramatic office confession email by selecting ALL the grammatically correct options that apply.

*Select all that apply.*

- **A)** It is I who am taking full responsibility for the incident.
- **B)** It was the marketing team that left the milk out overnight.
- **C)** It is I who is taking full responsibility for the incident.
- **D)** It was the marketing team whom left the milk out overnight.

**4.** Help the kingdom's chief gossipmonger set the record straight about the latest royal scandal.

The rumors claim the King gave the dragon to the Duke, but it was actually _____ he gifted the fire-breathing beast!

*Select one.*

- **A)** the Duchess who
- **B)** the Duchess whom
- **C)** to the Duchess that
- **D)** to the Duchess whom

**5.** Help Detective Barnes clarify the exact timeline in her incident report by selecting ALL the grammatically correct statements that apply.

*Select all that apply.*

- **A)** It was not until midnight that the thief bypassed the security cameras.
- **B)** It was from the hidden safe that the diamond was actually stolen.
- **C)** It was not until midnight did the thief bypass the security cameras.
- **D)** It was from the hidden safe where the diamond was actually stolen.

**6.** Complete the dramatic chef's explanation of a culinary disaster by choosing the correct word for each blank.

"It _____ because the main oven suddenly malfunctioned _____ the delicate cheese soufflé collapsed. Furthermore, it was _____ my senior assistant that I had explicitly handed the timer, so he is entirely to blame!"

*Choose the correct option for each gap.*

**Blank 1**

- **A)** seems
- **B)** was
- **C)** had

**Blank 2**

- **A)** why
- **B)** that
- **C)** since

**Blank 3**

- **A)** for
- **B)** to
- **C)** by

**7.** Complete Dr. Aris's dramatic lab journal entry about his recent mishap.

It was not until the purple smoke filled the entire laboratory _____ realized I had mixed up the baking soda and the highly reactive unobtainium.

*Select one.*

- **A)** that I
- **B)** when I
- **C)** did I
- **D)** than I

**8.** Complete the wildlife rescuer's log entry about a mischievous raccoon.

The kitchen was a total disaster area this morning. It _____ through the open skylight _____ the raccoon entered the house, because all the doors were securely locked from the inside.

*Choose the correct option for each gap.*

**Blank 1**

- **A)** must have been
- **B)** had to have
- **C)** ought to be

**Blank 2**

- **A)** where
- **B)** that
- **C)** through which

**9.** Help the theatrical ghost hunter complete her spooky field report by choosing the correct word for each blank.

"It _____ only after the candles mysteriously blew out _____ the phantom finally made its presence known. Furthermore, it was the skeptical cameraman, not the psychic, _____ fainted first!"

*Choose the correct option for each gap.*

**Blank 1**

- **A)** is
- **B)** was
- **C)** had

**Blank 2**

- **A)** when
- **B)** that
- **C)** which

**Blank 3**

- **A)** whom
- **B)** who
- **C)** whose

**10.** Complete the project manager's slightly accusatory email regarding the disastrous new company mascot.

Please stop blaming the marketing interns; it is I who _____ responsible for approving the giant neon platypus.

*Select one.*

- **A)** am
- **B)** is
- **C)** are
- **D)** be