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Basics. Had Better vs. Would Rather: Advanced Patterns

Medium | B1 | Intermediate | B2 | Upper Intermediate | Comparative and superlative | Infinitive | Modal verb | Negation | Past tense | Subjunctive mood | Verb | Perfect tense | Simple tense | Word order

1. Complete the introvert's honest reply to a Friday night party invitation.

To be completely honest, I ___ stay home and watch documentaries about cheese than go to a crowded nightclub.

Select one.

A) had better
B) would rather
C) would better
D) had rather

2. Complete the regretful time traveler's diary entry.

Looking back at my terrifying trip, I would rather _____ ancient Rome than the Jurassic period; running from a T-Rex is exhausting! Next time, I had better _____ some comfortable running shoes just in case.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) have visited
B) visit
C) visited

Blank 2

A) pack
B) to pack
C) packing

3. Complete the dramatic student's declaration about exam week.

I would rather clean the entire cafeteria with a toothbrush than ___ another calculus problem!

Select one.

A) to solve
B) solving
C) solve
D) solved

4. Help the frustrated roommate express their feelings by selecting the correct options.

"I'd rather you _____ your dirty socks on the kitchen counter," sighed Liam. "And you _____ clean them up before our guests arrive, or I'm throwing them out the window!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) don't leave
B) didn't leave
C) not leave

Blank 2

A) had better
B) would better
C) had rather

5. Help the neat roommate express their preferences to their messy friend. Select ALL the grammatically correct sentences that apply.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I'd rather you washed the dishes tonight.
- **B)** I would rather you didn't leave your socks everywhere.
- **C)** I'd rather you to wash the dishes tonight.
- **D)** I would rather you don't leave your socks everywhere.

6. Complete the secret agent's mission briefing by choosing the best phrases.

"You _____ touch that red button, Agent 007, unless you want the entire building to explode. I know you love fireworks, but I _____ we kept this headquarters intact for tomorrow's meeting."

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** had better not
- **B)** would rather not
- **C)** had not better

Blank 2

- **A)** would rather
- **B)** had better
- **C)** would better

7. Complete the friend's polite but firm boundary about their new vehicle.

I know you're a great driver, but I'd rather you ___ my new car to the monster truck rally.

Select one.

- **A)** don't take
- **B)** not take
- **C)** didn't take
- **D)** hadn't taken

8. Read the introvert's thoughts about an upcoming office party. Select ALL the grammatically correct statements.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I'd rather stay home and read a book than go to that loud party.
- **B)** I had better make an appearance, or my boss will be furious.
- **C)** I'd rather to stay home and read a book than going to that loud party.
- **D)** I would better make an appearance, or my boss will be furious.

9. Complete the theater director's feedback to the lead actor by choosing the correct verb for each gap.

I am exhausted, so I would rather _____ a short break right now. However, when we resume the scene, I would rather you _____ your lines with a bit more emotion.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** take
- **B)** took
- **C)** to take

Blank 2

- **A)** spoke
- **B)** speak
- **C)** to speak

10. Choose the right phrases to complete the vampire's dinner party invitation.

"I would rather _____ tomato juice tonight, as my stomach is a bit upset," Count Vlad explained politely. "However, I'd rather you _____ any garlic bread to the potluck. I'm highly allergic!"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** drink
- **B)** drank
- **C)** to drink

Blank 2

- **A)** didn't bring
- **B)** don't bring
- **C)** not bring

11. Complete the frantic time traveler's warning to his past self. Choose ALL the options that apply.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** You'd better not touch that glowing red button!
- **B)** You had better not speak to anyone from 1985.
- **C)** You'd better don't touch that glowing red button!
- **D)** You had better not to speak to anyone from 1985.
- **E)** You hadn't better touch that glowing red button!

12. Choose the correct verb forms to complete the Time Traveler's Safety Guide.

As a time traveler, you had better _____ in with the locals, or you will permanently alter history! Furthermore, the Agency would rather you _____ talk to your past self under any circumstances.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** blend
- **B)** to blend
- **C)** blended

Blank 2

- **A)** didn't
- **B)** don't
- **C)** haven't

13. Help the roommate give a crucial warning about the apartment's true ruler.

You ___ touch Mr. Fluffles while he's eating, unless you want to lose a finger.

Select one.

- **A)** had better not
- **B)** hadn't better
- **C)** better don't
- **D)** would rather not

14. Help the angry roommate leave a clear warning on the fridge by choosing the correct phrase for each blank.

You _____ touch my leftover pizza, or you will be buying me dinner for a week! To be honest, I _____ share my food at all, because I am much too lazy to cook tonight.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** had better not
- **B)** would rather not
- **C)** had not better

Blank 2

- **A)** would rather not
- **B)** had better not
- **C)** would not rather

15. Help the disappointed customer express their regrets about a disastrous haircut. Select ALL the sentences that apply.

Select all that apply.

A) I'd rather you hadn't chopped off all my bangs yesterday.
B) I would rather you had listened when I said "just a trim."
C) I'd rather you didn't chop off all my bangs yesterday.
D) I would rather you have listened when I said "just a trim."