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Basics. Mastering Mixed Conditionals and Inversions

Hard | B2 | Upper Intermediate | Conditional sentence | Inversion | Modal verb | Past tense | Present tense | Subjunctive mood | Verb mood | Verb tense | Perfect tense | Progressive tense

1. Complete the stressed head chef's realization.

_____ the VIP reservation list this morning, I _____ in the kitchen right now!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) Had I checked
B) If I checked
C) Have I checked

Blank 2

A) wouldn't be panicking
B) wouldn't have panicked
C) am not panicking

2. Complete the clumsy detective's incident report by choosing the right verb structures.

If I _____ so generally terrified of spiders, I _____ my heavy magnifying glass directly onto the suspect's crucial footprint yesterday.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) weren't
B) hadn't been
C) wouldn't be

Blank 2

A) wouldn't drop
B) wouldn't have dropped
C) didn't drop

3. Complete the text message from a disappointed animal lover.

If I _____ this terrible, lifelong allergy to fur, I _____ that adorable stray kitten we found yesterday.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

A) didn't have
B) hadn't had
C) don't have

Blank 2

A) would have adopted
B) would adopt
C) will have adopted

4. Choose the correct verb forms to finish the amateur wizard's rather urgent diary entry.

If I _____ the instructions on the spellbook properly yesterday, I _____ as a giant talking frog at this very moment!

Select one.

A) had read / wouldn't be sitting
B) read / wouldn't sit
C) had read / wouldn't have sat
D) read / wouldn't have been sitting

5. Complete the time traveler's frantic journal entry. Select ALL the options that apply to correctly express their current predicament!

Day 42 in the Jurassic period. The T-Rex is looking at me funny...

Select all that apply.

- **A)** If I hadn't spilled coffee on the control panel, I would be sitting comfortably in the year 2024 right now.
- **B)** Had I not spilled coffee on the control panel, I wouldn't be hiding from a hungry dinosaur today.
- **C)** If I didn't spill coffee on the control panel, I wouldn't be hiding from a hungry dinosaur today.
- **D)** If I hadn't spilled coffee on the control panel, I wouldn't have been hiding from a hungry dinosaur today.

6. Help the sleep-deprived student complete their tragic realization about last night's choices. Choose the grammatically correct option.

If I _____ that entire family-sized pizza at 2 AM, I _____ so incredibly sluggish right now.

Select one.

- **A)** didn't eat / wouldn't be
- **B)** hadn't eaten / wouldn't have been
- **C)** hadn't eaten / wouldn't be
- **D)** haven't eaten / am not

7. Reconstruct the celebrity chef's interview about her accidental culinary masterpiece.

To be completely honest, _____ that garlic and chocolate were a match made in heaven, I _____ scrambling to rewrite my entire dessert menu right now.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** had I realized
- **B)** if I realized
- **C)** did I realize

Blank 2

- **A)** wouldn't be
- **B)** wouldn't have been
- **C)** am not

8. Complete the detective's deduction about a notoriously clumsy cat burglar. Select the correct phrase to fill in the blanks.

If the thief _____ so clumsy by nature, he _____ over the alarm wire and triggered the siren last night.

Select one.

- **A)** wasn't / wouldn't trip
- **B)** hadn't been / wouldn't have tripped
- **C)** weren't / wouldn't have tripped
- **D)** isn't / didn't trip

9. Help the food critic review last night's disastrous dinner party. Choose ALL the grammatically correct statements that apply to the chef!

Chef Bob is famously terrified of spices, which explains a lot about yesterday's incredibly bland spaghetti.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** If Chef Bob weren't so afraid of seasonings, the sauce wouldn't have tasted like warm tap water last night.
- **B)** If Chef Bob knew how to use salt, his guests wouldn't have secretly ordered a pizza halfway through the meal.
- **C)** If Chef Bob hadn't been afraid of seasonings, the sauce wouldn't taste like warm tap water last night.
- **D)** If Chef Bob isn't so afraid of seasonings, his guests wouldn't have secretly ordered a pizza halfway through the meal.

10. Help the disgruntled time traveler complete his diary entry by choosing the correct verb form for each blank.

If I _____ all my savings into that "revolutionary" floppy disk company back in the 1990s, I _____ relaxing on my own private island right now.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** didn't put
- **B)** hadn't put
- **C)** wouldn't put

Blank 2

- **A)** would be
- **B)** would have been
- **C)** am

11. Read the astronaut's desperate radio transmission to Houston. Select ALL the sentences that correctly describe their situation using mixed conditionals!

Houston, we have a problem. I forgot to pack the instruction manual before launch, and now I'm pressing buttons at random.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** If I had packed the manual, the ship's alarm wouldn't be blaring right now.
- **B)** I wouldn't be guessing which button to press if I had packed the manual before launch.
- **C)** If I packed the manual, the ship's alarm wouldn't be blaring right now.
- **D)** If I had packed the manual, the ship's alarm wouldn't have been blaring right now.

12. Complete the time traveler's frustrated diary entry.

If I _____ on that prehistoric butterfly during my trip to the Cretaceous period, giant intelligent hamsters _____ the Earth right now!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** hadn't stepped
- **B)** didn't step
- **C)** haven't stepped

Blank 2

- **A)** wouldn't be ruling
- **B)** wouldn't have ruled
- **C)** won't rule