ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Conditionals Mixed Type MCQ Test With Answers + PDF Exercise

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Explanations

1. If you _____ the dictionary yesterday, I _____ to translate the article today.
✓ A) had given / would be able
This is a **mixed conditional**: a past condition (**yesterday**) with a present or future result (**today**). Use **had + past participle** in the if-clause and **would + verb** in the main clause: **had given / would be able**. Not **gave / will be able**, because that is a real (first) conditional, and the giving did not happen.

2. If the help _____ in time, the experiment _____ tomorrow afternoon.
✓ C) had been offered / would be completed
This is a **mixed conditional**: the help was not given in the past, so the result for **tomorrow afternoon** is unreal. The help and the experiment do not act, so both verbs are passive: **had been offered** (past perfect passive) and **would be completed**. Not **had offered**, because the help did not offer anything; it was offered.

3. If you _____ these pills yesterday, you _____ well now.
✓ A) had taken / would be
This is a **mixed conditional**: a past action (**yesterday**) that did not happen, with a present result (**now**). Use **had taken** in the if-clause and **would be** in the main clause. Not **took / would be**, because **took** would describe a present unreal situation, not **yesterday**.

4. If I had gone to the party last night, I _____ tired now.
✓ C) would be
The if-clause is about the past (**had gone … last night**), but the result is about the present (**now**). In this **mixed conditional** the main clause uses **would + verb**: **would be**. Not **would have been**, because that refers to the past, and the word **now** shows the present.

5. She didn't know if the letter _____ by the time she _____.
✓ D) would have been delivered / came
This is reported speech in the past. Her question was **Will the letter have been delivered by the time I come?** After a past reporting verb (**didn't know**), **will have been delivered** becomes **would have been delivered**. After **by the time** we use a present tense for the future, which becomes past here: **came**. Not **was delivered**, because **by the time** needs a perfect form.

6. If he _____ English well, he _____ the article without difficulty yesterday.
✓ A) knew / would have translated
This is a mixed conditional. The condition is unreal in the present or in general (he doesn't know English well), and the result is in the past (**yesterday**). Use the past simple **knew** in the if-clause and **would have** + past participle in the main clause: **would have translated**. Not **would have known**, because we don't normally use **would** in the if-clause.

7. If you _____ harder last year, you _____ English well now.
✓ C) had worked / would know
This is a **mixed conditional**: a past condition (**last year**) with a present result (**now**). Use **had worked** in the if-clause and **would know** in the main clause. Not **worked / had known**, because the main clause of a conditional needs **would**.

8. If you _____ harder, you _____ more money and now you _____ to buy a car.
✓ B) had worked / would have earned / would be able
The working and earning are in the past, so we use the **third conditional**: **had worked / would have earned**. The last part is about the present (**now**), so it uses **would + verb**: **would be able**. Not **will be able**, because the situation is unreal, so we need **would**, not **will**.

9. If you _____ your swimming suit, you would be able to go for a swim now.
✓ E) hadn't left
The main clause is about the present (**would be able … now**), but leaving the swimsuit happened in the past. In this **mixed conditional** the if-clause uses the past perfect: **hadn't left**. Not **haven't left**, because an unreal condition needs a past form, not the present perfect.

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