ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Clauses (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 6

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Explanations

1. I wish the teacher _____ us more about the exam before it takes place.
✓ **A) would tell**
We use **wish + would + verb** when we want someone to do something in the future. The exam has not happened yet, so we need **would tell**. Not **had told**, because that is used for regrets about the past.

2. I wish you _____ here now. I miss you a lot.
✓ **B) were**
For a wish about the present, use **wish + past simple**. With **be**, **were** is used for all persons: **I wish you were here now**. The word **now** shows the present.

3. I wish you _____. I'm sure you would enjoy joining us.
✓ **A) could come**
The clue **you would enjoy joining us** shows the wish is about now or the future, not the past. **Wish + could** expresses a wish about ability or possibility: **I wish you could come**. Not **had come**, because that is for past regrets and would need **would have enjoyed**.

4. She won't help me. I wish she _____ me.
✓ **B) would help**
Use **wish + would** when you want someone to change their behaviour or be willing to do something. **She won't help me**, so **I wish she would help me**. Not **had helped**, which is about the past.

5. I wish I _____ the last bus. Now I'll have to walk.
✓ **B) hadn't missed**
To regret a past action, use **wish + past perfect**. Missing the bus has already happened, so **I wish I hadn't missed the last bus**. Not **didn't miss**, because past simple after **wish** is for present situations.

6. Don't you wish we _____ tonight?
✓ **A) weren't going**
For a wish about a present or future plan, use **wish + past continuous**: **Don't you wish we weren't going tonight?** Present forms like **aren't going** cannot follow **wish**.

7. It is raining. I wish it _____.
✓ **C) weren't raining**
The rain is happening now, so use **wish + past continuous**: **I wish it weren't raining**. Not **didn't rain**, which would be a general wish about the weather (e.g. **I wish it didn't rain so much here**), not about this moment.

8. When it was too late, he wished he _____ a better husband.
✓ **B) had been**
When it was too late shows regret about the past, so use **wish + past perfect**: **he wished he had been a better husband**. Not **were**, which would be a wish about his situation at that time, not a regret.

9. You can't change things simply by wishing they _____ different.
✓ **D) were**
After **wish**, a present situation takes the past simple, and with **be** we often use **were**: **wishing they were different**. **Would** is not used with a state like **be different** here.

10. I wish he _____ to Tokyo with me last weekend.
✓ **C) had come**
Last weekend is in the past, so use **wish + past perfect**: **I wish he had come**. Not **came** or **could come**, which refer to the present.

11. I wish that you _____ such a bad headache because I'm sure that you'd have enjoyed the party.
✓ **B) hadn't had**
The party is over (**you'd have enjoyed**), so this is a past regret: **wish + past perfect → I wish you hadn't had such a bad headache**. Not **didn't have**, which would mean you have a headache now.

12. I wish that I _____ with you last summer.
✓ **D) could've gone**
Last summer is past, so we need a past form: **wish + could have + past participle** expresses regret about a past possibility: **I wish I could've gone with you**. Not **could go**, which is about the present.

13. You might have cleaned the bath after you'd used it. I wish you _____ the bath after using it this morning.
✓ **A) had cleaned**
You might have cleaned is a complaint about something in the past, and **this morning** shows a finished time. For a regret about the past, use **wish** + past perfect: **I wish you had cleaned the bath**. Not **would clean**, because **wish** + **would** is a complaint about someone's present habits or future behaviour, not about one past action.

14. You might come to work a bit earlier on Mondays. I wish you _____ a bit earlier on Mondays.
✓ **D) would come**
You might come is a complaint about present habits. To express annoyance and a wish for change, use **wish + would**: **I wish you would come a bit earlier**. Not **had come**, which is about the past.

15. You might have remembered my birthday. I wish you _____ my birthday.
✓ **A) had remembered**
You might have remembered is a complaint about the past, so use **wish + past perfect**: **I wish you had remembered my birthday**.

16. You might make less noise. If only you _____ less noise.
✓ **C) would make**
You might make less noise is a complaint about someone's annoying behaviour. To ask for a change in behaviour, use **If only / wish + would**: **If only you would make less noise**. Not **had made**, which is about the past.

17. If only I _____ busy yesterday. I could have helped you with the problem.
✓ **B) hadn’t been**
Yesterday shows a past regret, so use **if only + past perfect**: **If only I hadn't been busy yesterday**. Not **wasn't/weren't**, which are for present wishes.

18. He wishes his father _____ him some shoes before the new term starts.
✓ **C) would buy**
To wish that someone will do something in the future, use **wish + would**: **He wishes his father would buy him some shoes before the new term starts**. Present forms like **buys** or **is going to buy** cannot follow **wish**, and **had bought** is for past regrets.

19. I wish our school _____ a bigger library than it has.
✓ **C) had**
For a wish about a present state, use **wish + past simple**: **I wish our school had a bigger library**. Not **would have**, because **would** is not used with states like **have** (possess).

20. I wish we _____ late for this film. I can’t follow the story.
✓ **B) hadn’t arrived**
Arriving late has already happened, so use **wish + past perfect**: **I wish we hadn't arrived late**. Not **didn't arrive**, which is for present situations.

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