ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Clauses (Intermediate / Upper-Intermediate) Test 7

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Explanations

1. She wishes she _____ younger than she is.
✔ **A) were**
To talk about an unreal present situation after **wish**, use the past simple, and **were** is preferred for all persons: **She wishes she were younger.** She is not younger now, so this is a wish about the present. Not **had been**, which would refer to the past.

2. A: Janet couldn’t come to the concert last night.

B: I wish she _____.
✔ **C) could have come**
For a regret about the past, use **wish** + past perfect or **could have** + past participle. Janet **couldn't come** (past ability), so the matching wish is **I wish she could have come.** Not **would come**, which is about the future or someone's unwillingness, not a past event.

3. I couldn’t get through the traffic in time. I wish I _____ through the traffic in time.
✔ **B) had been able to get**
A wish about the past takes the past perfect. The past ability **couldn't get** becomes **had been able to get**: **I wish I had been able to get through the traffic in time.** Not **was able to get**, which refers to the present, not the past.

4. My father wasn’t able to pay the money back. I wish my father _____ the money back.
✔ **A) could have paid**
The situation is in the past (**wasn't able to pay**), so the wish uses **could have** + past participle: **I wish my father could have paid the money back.** Not **could pay**, which is a wish about the present.

5. It is a pity you drink too much. If only you _____ so much.
✔ **C) didn’t drink**
If only works like **wish**. For a present situation or habit, use the past simple: **If only you didn't drink so much.** The clue is **you drink too much**, which is true now. Not **hadn't drunk**, which is about the past.

6. It is a pity that we rejected their proposal. If only we _____ their proposal.
✔ **B) hadn’t rejected**
The rejection happened in the past (**we rejected**), so **If only** takes the past perfect: **If only we hadn't rejected their proposal.** Not **didn't reject**, which would refer to the present.

7. A: I must go home now.

B: I wish you _____ home now.
✔ **C) didn’t have to go**
A wish about the present uses the past simple. **I must go** becomes **I wish you didn't have to go**, because **must** has no past form, so we use **have to → didn't have to**. Not **needn't have gone**, which talks about a past action that was unnecessary.

8. A: Don’t you have enough time to learn English?

B: No, I don’t. I wish I _____ time to learn English.
✔ **A) did have**
A wish about the present uses the past simple: **I wish I had time.** Here the emphatic form **did have** is used to stress the wish: **I wish I did have time.** Not **had had**, which is about the past.

9. The bus always stops at every bus-stop. I wish it _____ at every bus-stop.
✔ **A) didn’t stop**
The bus **always stops** now (a present habit), so the wish uses the past simple: **I wish it didn't stop at every bus-stop.** Not **would stop**, which says the opposite of what the speaker wants.

10. The party was so bad that they left early. They wish _____.
✔ **D) they hadn’t gone**
The party was in the past, so the regret uses **wish** + past perfect: **They wish they hadn't gone.** Not **didn't go**, which would refer to the present.

11. A: Sandy had an accident because she wasn’t careful.

B: If only she _____.
✔ **A) had been careful**
The accident happened in the past, so **If only** takes the past perfect: **If only she had been careful.** Not **were careful**, which is a wish about the present.

12. A: Robert is unhappy because he can’t find his passport.

B: If only he _____.
✔ **C) could find it**
Robert **can't find** his passport now, so the wish is about the present: **can → could**. **If only he could find it.** Not **could have found it**, which is about the past.

13. A: We have to cancel the match because it is raining.

B: If only it _____.
✓ D) weren't raining
It **is raining** now (present continuous), so **If only** takes the past continuous: **If only it weren't raining.** Not **didn't rain**, which suggests a general habit rather than the rain at this moment.

14. A: Mary is sorry that she bought such an expensive dress.

B: If only she _____ such an expensive dress.
✓ C) hadn't bought
Mary **bought** the dress in the past, so the regret uses the past perfect: **If only she hadn't bought such an expensive dress.** Not **didn't buy**, which refers to the present.

15. Don't you think it is significant _____?
✓ B) that he has been re-elected
After **it is** + adjective, a **that**-clause often acts as the real subject: **It is significant that he has been re-elected.** Not **how comfortable is it**, because an indirect question needs normal word order (**how comfortable it is**).

16. Water is a compound _____ molecule consists of two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen.
✓ C) whose
Whose shows possession and can be used for things as well as people: **a compound whose molecule** = the compound's molecule. Not **of which**, because that pattern needs **the molecule of which**.

17. A dynamo is a machine _____ is used for producing electricity.
✓ B) which
Which is the relative pronoun for things, and here it is the subject of **is used**: **a machine which is used for producing electricity. Who** and **whom** are only for people.

18. The student couldn't remember the year _____ Mozart was born.
✓ A) when
After a time noun like **year**, use **when** (= in which) to introduce a relative clause: **the year when Mozart was born.** Not **at which**: with years we say **in which**, not **at which**.

19. That is the hotel _____ I stayed at.
✓ B) which
The sentence ends with the preposition **at**, so we need a relative pronoun for a thing: **the hotel which I stayed at.** Not **where**, because **where** already means **at which**, so **where ... at** repeats the preposition.

20. Hydrogen is an element _____ atomic number is 1 and _____ atomic weight is 1.008.
✓ A) whose / whose
Both gaps show possession (the element's atomic number, the element's atomic weight), so **whose** is needed twice: **an element whose atomic number is 1 and whose atomic weight is 1.008. Of which** would need **the**: **the atomic number of which**.

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