7.3 Conditional Tenses: 10-minute Pack

about 10 minutes

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Cliff-Top Path

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If the tide comes in quickly, the cliff path becomes dangerous within minutes. Mr Kalu, our geography teacher, reminded us of this fact before we set off, and I could see why: the sea already looked restless against the rocks below.

'If we leave now, we will reach the headland before the weather closes in,' he said, checking his watch. Priya wasn't so sure. 'If I were in charge, I would wait for the ranger's forecast first,' she muttered to me, pulling her hood up against the wind.

Halfway along the path, the wind grew fiercer than any of us expected. If the ranger had warned us earlier, we would have taken the inland route instead, and none of us would have got quite so soaked. Still, nobody panicked. If you keep calm on an exposed path like this one, you generally make better decisions, Mr Kalu explained afterwards, and I think he was right.

By the time we reached the shelter at the headland, the rain had eased. 'If we had turned back at the first warning sign,' Priya said, half laughing, half relieved, 'we would have missed this view completely.' She had a point. Some risks, taken sensibly, turn out to be worth it.

1 Complete each sentence with the correct form of the verb in brackets, to make a second conditional sentence.

(a) If I ___ (be) in charge, I would insist on checking the forecast. **(1)**

(b) If the storm ___ (arrive) sooner, we would already be sheltering. **(1)**

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(c) If we ___ (have) more time, we would explore the caves too. **(1)**

(d) Priya would relax if Mr Kalu ___ (agree) to wait. **(1)**

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2 Tick the option that correctly completes each sentence.

(a) If it rains tomorrow, we ___ the trip. **(1)**

- ☐ will cancel
- ☐ would cancel

(b) If I ___ you, I would double-check the forecast. **(1)**

- ☐ was
- ☐ were

(c) If we had left earlier, we ___ the storm completely. **(1)**

- ☐ would avoid
- ☐ would have avoided

(d) If metal expands when heated, it ___ true every time. **(1)**

- ☐ is
- ☐ will be

(e) If she trains regularly, she ___ improve. **(1)**

- ☐ will
- ☐ would

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3 Below is a paragraph with several errors, including some in the conditional tenses. Rewrite it correctly, correcting every error you can find.

'if the weather were bad, mr kalu will always change the plan he said if we would of listened to the early warning we would of missed the whole afternoon at the headland.'

(6)

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Mark scheme · 7.3 Conditional Tenses: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) were (formal subjunctive form; was accepted informally) cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **were**

(b) arrived cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **arrived**

(c) had cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **had**

(d) agreed cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **agreed**

Question 2

(a) will cancel ticked cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **will cancel**

(b) were ticked cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **were**

(c) would have avoided ticked cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **would have avoided**

(d) is ticked cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **is**

(e) will ticked cao **B1**

(e) Answer: **will**

Question 3

Level 0 No accurate corrections made; errors remain uncorrected or new errors introduced. **0**

Level 1 One or two errors corrected (e.g. capitalisation only), with limited overall accuracy. **1-2**

Level 2 Most errors corrected, including at least one 'would of' error, with an attempt to fix the sentence boundary. **3-4**

Level 3 All errors corrected accurately, demonstrating secure control of sentence demarcation, capitalisation and conditional tenses throughout. **5-6**

Indicative content:

- Capital letter added for 'If' at the start of the sentence
- 'mr kalu' corrected to 'Mr Kalu' (proper noun requires capital letters)
- 'will' corrected to 'would' (the second conditional if-clause 'if the weather were bad' needs a matching 'would', not 'will'); accept instead 'were' changed to 'is' with 'will' kept, which gives a consistent first conditional ('If the weather is bad, Mr Kalu will always change the plan')
- The missing sentence boundary after 'change the plan' corrected with a full stop and a capital letter for 'He', or a semicolon
- 'if we would of listened' corrected to 'if we had listened' (a third conditional if-clause needs the past perfect, not 'would have') and 'we would of missed' corrected to 'we would have missed' ('of' is a non-standard spelling of the auxiliary 'have')
- Overall rewrite is fluent, grammatically accurate Standard English with correctly matched conditional tenses throughout

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