"A Missed Opportunity"

John: I can't stop thinking about what Maria said last night. She told me she would have married me if I had asked her 10 years ago.

David: Wow! That's surprising. What did you say?

John: I didn't know what to say. I kept thinking, "If I had asked her back then, my life would have been so different." You know, I might have moved to New York with her. Who knows?

David: So, she really said that? It must have been shocking to hear.

John: Yeah, she said if we had been in touch more often, we could have stayed together. I guess I just never realized how she felt.

David: Well, if she had told you how she felt earlier, would you have done anything differently?

John: Honestly, yes. If I had known, I might not have taken that job overseas. But then again, if I hadn't worked abroad, I wouldn't have the career I have now. Life is full of "what ifs," right?

David: Exactly. Sometimes it's best not to dwell too much on the past.

Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the box.

regret – decision – realized – shocking - career

1. John hadn't _____ how Maria felt about him all those years ago.
2. Hearing Maria's confession was quite _____ for John.
3. David asked John if he had ever regretted his _____ to work abroad.
4. John wondered if his _____ would have been different had he stayed with Maria.
5. "No _____," John said, but deep down, he knew things could have been different.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Reported Speech

Rewrite the following sentences in reported speech.

1. Maria: "I would have married you if you had asked me."

   _____

2. John: "I might have moved to New York with you."

   _____

3. David: "What did she say?"

   _____

4. Maria: "If we had been in touch, we could have stayed together."

   _____

5. John: "I didn't know what to say when she told me."

   _____

Third Conditional Exercise

Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets:

1. If John _____ (ask) Maria 10 years ago, they _____ (be) married now.
2. If Maria _____ (tell) John how she felt earlier, he _____ (not take) the job overseas.
3. If they _____ (stay) in touch, their relationship _____ (not end).
4. If John _____ (move) to New York, he _____ (have) a completely different life.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5. If John _____ (know) how much Maria cared, he _____ (make) different decisions.

Discussion and Reflection

- How did John's decisions shape his current life? Could he have changed his fate?

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