

THEME 6 OPEN YOUR HEART GRAMMAR

1. PAST MODALS

When we know that something happened in the past, we use a normal past tense. (He *did*, I *saw* them, etc.)

If we are not completely sure, we use a modal (*must, may, might, could + have*). The choice of modal depends on the degree of certainty, as in the following table.

PROBABILITY	VERB	EXAMPLE
100%	past simple	<i>She knew.</i>
almost certain 95%	must have	<i>We must have arrived.</i>
50% (possible)	could have	<i>She could have forgotten.</i>
possible but unlikely	might/ may have	<i>We might/may have made a mistake.</i>
highly unlikely	can't/couldn't have	<i>You can't have lost it.</i>
0% impossibility	past simple negative	<i>He didn't know.</i>

A. Match the sentences 1-3 with their meanings a-c.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>___ 1. Mary might have fallen asleep earlier than usual.</p> <p>___ 2. Brian couldn't have spoken rudely.</p> <p>___ 3. Lisa must have understood me wrong.</p> | <p>a) I'm almost certain this happened.</p> <p>b) I feel it's possible that this happened.</p> <p>c) I'm almost certain this didn't happen.</p> |
|--|---|

B. Match the sentences with the situations.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>___ 1. Sheila is looking very happy.</p> <p>___ 2. Oh, no! Where is my car?</p> <p>___ 3. Sue has paint stains on her clothes.</p> <p>___ 4. Dila arrived at work late yesterday.</p> | <p>a) Her boss can't have been very happy.</p> <p>b) She might have been redecorating his house.</p> <p>c) She must have had some good news.</p> <p>d) Someone must have stolen it.</p> |
|--|---|

C. Choose the correct explanations for the following past events.

1. Lily might have taken a taxi to the airport last night.
 - A) It is certain that Lily took a taxi to the airport last night.
 - B) It is possible that Lily took a taxi to the airport last night.
2. Jay must have arrived at the bus station late last Sunday.
 - A) It is certain that Jay arrived at the bus station late last Sunday.
 - B) It is likely that Jay arrived at the bus station late last Sunday.
3. Adam couldn't have seen the accident yesterday morning.
 - A) I'm sure that Adam saw the accident yesterday morning.
 - B) I'm certain that Adam didn't see the accident yesterday morning.

D. Which sentence, (a) or (b), comes after the given one.

1. I don't know why he didn't come to the art exhibition.

a) He might have liked it.	b) He might like it.
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2. Nobody knows where the bicycles have gone.

a) They might have been stolen.	B) They might be stolen.
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3. Don't throw away the rest of the chicken.

a) Mom may have used it for dinner.	b) Mom may use it for dinner.
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4. I wish I had seen my brother's performance in the school choir.

- a) He must have played really well. b) He must play well.

5. He had a beautiful smile on his face.

- a) He can't have had the bad news. b) He can't have the bad news.

6. I was so angry with you.

- a) You should have left a note for me. b) You should leave a note for me.

7. The director is shouting.

- a) He must have been very angry. b) He must be very angry.

8. Oh, no! Not again. Where are my keys?

- a) I might have left them on the table. b) I might leave them on the table.

E. Read the situations and draw conclusions using the following past modals.

might have / must have / couldn't have

1. I can smell my sister's perfume. She / be / in my room a few minutes ago.
2. Rick went to London last Sunday. You / see / him in the post office this morning.
3. Perhaps they were ill. They / go / to the hospital.
4. This is not Pam's handwriting. She / write / the letter.
5. Mike wasn't at the factory at the time. He / cause / the fire.
6. Maybe Tracy felt very tired. She / need / a holiday.
7. Ken is very good at physics. He / solve / all the problems in the exam on his own.
8. Veronica is a very honest person. She / tell / the truth to the headmaster.
9. I'm not sure Beth waited there till the end. She / leave / the ceremony early.

F. Complete the dialogues (1-8) by choosing the past modals from the list below and using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

might have / must have / couldn't have

1. A: Those girls say Benjamin was unkind to them at break time last Monday, but he wasn't at school.
B: That person _____ (be) Benjamin.
2. A: I haven't ordered this tomato soup. You _____ (make) a mistake.
B: OK, sir. Let me check, please.
3. A: Who has bought this present for you?
B: I'm not sure, but Valeria _____ (buy) it.
4. A: Someone called you when you were outside, but she hung up without saying her name. It _____ (be) your younger sister. I'm sure it was her voice.
B: OK. I'll ring her now.
5. A: I sent Jason a text message half an hour ago, but he didn't reply.
B: The battery of his mobile phone _____ (go) dead.
6. A: Sue says she sent me a postcard from Paris a few weeks ago, but I haven't received it yet.
B: She _____ (send) it to a wrong address.
7. A: I can't find my mobile phone.
B: You _____ (leave) it somewhere. What places have you been to so far today?

8. A: I saw Tony in the street an hour ago. He was cycling.

B: You _____ (see) Tony. He's been in Rome since last weekend.

G. Rewrite the sentences using the word given in brackets.

E.g. I think Bob put my book into his bag. (could)

Bob could have put my book into his bag.

1. I'm sure Lisa didn't actually mean what she said. (couldn't)

_____.

2. I'm sure Tom realized how wrong he was. (must)

_____.

3. Perhaps my mother was at the hairdresser. (might)

_____.

4. I think my grandpa ate the cake I baked yesterday. (could)

_____.

H. The following sentences are about an escaped criminal. Rewrite them using a modal from the above table, as in the example.

Example: It is **almost certain** that he left before breakfast.

He **must have left** before breakfast.

1. It is highly unlikely that he carried the gold by himself.

2. He has almost certainly been spotted by the police by now.

3. It is possible but unlikely that he headed towards London.

4. It is almost certain that he realized how serious it was.

5. It is highly unlikely that he thought things through clearly.

6. Possibly he escaped by boat.

7. It's quite likely that he made contact with his friends.

2. SHOULD / OUGHT TO HAVE + V3

We use should/ought to + have + past participle (V3) to talk about an obligation in the past. It often indicates some criticism.

Tina should have asked me before she took my mobile. (I'm annoyed)

You cough terribly. You shouldn't have walked in the rain. I mean you should have taken a taxi.

A. Read the situations and express your criticism using should/shouldn't have.

E.g. Dan shouted at his friend. What would you say to him?

You shouldn't have shouted at your friend.

1. Bob promised to pick you up at 9:30 a.m., but he arrived late. What would you say to him?

_____.

2. Ira's father bought her a nice gift, but she didn't say a word to him. What would you say to her?

_____.

3. Sam left the waiter a bigger tip than necessary. What would you say to him?

_____.

4. Sue said that she'd lost your book. What would you say to her?

_____.

5. Your cousin, Joe didn't study enough and failed the exam. What would you say to him?

_____.

B. Rewrite the sentences using the modals below.

could have / should have / can't have / must have / shouldn't have

1. It was certain that Amanda suffered from anxiety when she was a teenage girl.

Amanda **must have suffered from anxiety when she was a teenage girl.**

2. It was possible that Mike sent you these roses.

Ron _____

3. Seeing a physician was the right thing to do, but she didn't.

She _____

4. It was not possible that you saw the maths teacher.

You _____

5. I am sure that Linda didn't take the lift to the fifth floor; she's claustrophobic.

Linda _____

6. I am annoyed that you took my mobile phone without asking my permission.

You _____

7. The interns probably stayed back at work yesterday.

The interns _____

THEME 6 OPEN YOUR HEART GRAMMAR ANSWER KEY

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You should have thanked him

3. Sam left the waiter a bigger tip than necessary. What would you say to him?

You shouldn't have left the waiter a bigger tip than necessary

4. Sue said that she'd lost your book. What would you say to her?

You shouldn't have lost my book

5. Your cousin, Joe didn't study enough and failed the exam. What would you say to him?

You should have studied enough

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7. The interns probably stayed back at work yesterday.

The interns could have stayed back at the concert