

Modals in the past

I can use past modals correctly.

1 Circle the correct modals to complete the sentences.

- 1 She **can't have** / **might have** / **must have** left her phone at school. Or perhaps she left it on the bus.
- 2 There's no pizza left. They **can't have** / **could have** / **must have** eaten it all.
- 3 Juliet **can't have** / **may have** / **must have** gone on holiday. She was at school yesterday!
- 4 I didn't get your email. Do you think you **can't have** / **could have** / **must have** sent it to my old email address?
- 5 Your smartwatch probably isn't broken. It **can't have** / **could have** / **must have** run out of charge.
- 6 The school show is on YouTube. Our teacher **can't have** / **might have** / **must have** uploaded it.
- 7 You went 130 km in less than an hour? You **can't have** / **could have** / **must have** driven very fast!
- 8 Max isn't replying to my texts. He **can't have** / **might have** / **must have** taken his phone with him.

2 Complete the sentences with **must have** or **can't have** and the verb in brackets.

- 1 Jack is usually here by now. He _____ (miss) his bus.
- 2 Madison didn't know about the party. She _____ (get) your email.
- 3 Sam _____ (take) his phone with him; he isn't answering my text messages.
- 4 There's no bread. We _____ (eat) it all at breakfast.
- 5 They've left school already. Their lessons _____ (finish) early today.
- 6 He _____ (injure) his leg really badly. He cycled home!

3 Write the correct reply (a–f) after sentences 1–6. Use **should** / **shouldn't have** and the past participle form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 'My camcorder screen is damaged.'
_____,
 - 2 'I think we're driving in the wrong direction.'
_____,
 - 3 'I've spent a fortune on my phone this month!'
_____,
 - 4 'My email account has been hacked again.'
_____,
 - 5 'Mason is really angry with me.'
_____,
 - 6 'My tablet is completely dead.'
_____,
- a We (bring) the satnav.
b You (choose) a better password.
c You (charge) it overnight.
d You (drop) it on the pavement.
e You (make) those comments on Twitter.
f You (call) your friend when you were abroad.

4 Complete the dialogue with the modals below. You can use the same modal more than once.

can't have may / might / could have
might not have must have

- Erica What's the matter, Jack? You look worried.
Jack I can't find my phone. I ¹ _____ left it somewhere.
Erica Did you have it on the bus?
Jack Yes, I did. But I ² _____ left it there because I used it just after I got off. I sent you a text.
Erica You ³ _____ dropped it when you were walking here from the bus stop.
Jack Yes, that's possible. I was listening to my MP3 player.
Erica Somebody ⁴ _____ found it by now and handed it in to the police.
Jack Or they ⁵ _____ handed it in. They ⁶ _____ kept it.
Erica Shall I phone the police station and ask?
Jack Yes, OK. But why don't you call my phone number first?
Erica OK, I will. I can hear your phone ringing.
Jack Me too. I ⁷ _____ dropped it in the street.
Erica No. You ⁸ _____ put it down somewhere in the house.
Jack That's a relief! But where is it?

5 Write replies for the sentences. Use the words in brackets.

- 1 'My back is really painful.' (might have)

- 2 'Ellie has got a really expensive new phone.' (must have)

- 3 'I failed my science exam.' (can't have)

- 4 'I've deleted all my photos by mistake.' (should have)

- 5 'Anna left a rude message on my Facebook page.' (might not have)

- 6 'I haven't got enough money for my bus ticket.' (shouldn't have)

- 7 'It took Ben two hours to get home from school.' (must have)

- 8 'I was hungry all morning at school.' (can't have)

- 9 'Molly seemed really disappointed with her exam result.' (might have)
