

PRACTICE

It all went wrong

- 1 Work in pairs. Read about three robberies that went wrong. What were the robbers' mistakes?

Easy arrest

A bank robber in Marseille, France, held up a sign which said 'Give me all the money.' The cashier handed over the money, and the bank robber fled, leaving the note behind. Unfortunately, he had written the note on the back of an envelope. On the other side was his address. He was arrested later the same day.

Smile!

Car thief Lee Hoskins took pictures of himself stealing a Vauxhall Astra with a camera he found in the glove department. Lee and his girlfriend took turns posing before crashing the car and fleeing the scene, leaving the camera on the back seat of the car. 'It's amazing just how stupid some criminals can be,' said a spokesman for Somerset police.

Have a loan instead

A Finnish bank manager stopped a robbery by persuading the three criminals to take out a loan instead. The robbers burst into the bank near Helsinki, and demanded €50,000. The manager put the money on the table, but suggested that a loan would be more sensible. He offered them a €10 cash advance and told them to return in ten minutes to sign the loan papers. Police were waiting for them.



You're an idiot!

- 3 Your friend did some really stupid things.

I drove home even though I was falling asleep at the wheel.

You're an idiot! You might have had an accident! You could have killed someone!

How do you react when he tells you these things? Use *might have* or *could have*.

- 1 I went walking in the mountains for three days with no food or equipment.
- 2 I didn't feel like going to work, so I phoned in sick. I went shopping instead.
- 3 I had a temperature of 102, but I went out dancing all night.
- 4 I told Sally I couldn't see her, then went out to the pub with Danielle.
- 5 I used to be really good at tennis, I was an under-14 champion, but then I gave it all up.

T 9.4 Listen and compare.

Speaking

- 4 Think of a time in your life when things went wrong.

I went to a party with my boyfriend.
I kissed another boy.
I had a row with my boyfriend.
We broke up.

Make sentences like these.

I shouldn't have kissed the other boy.

If I hadn't kissed him, I wouldn't have had a row with my boyfriend.

I should have just said sorry to my boyfriend.
Then we wouldn't have broken up.

- 2 Rewrite the sentences about the robberies using the words in brackets.

- 1 It was a mistake to write his note on an envelope. (*shouldn't*)
He shouldn't have written his note on an envelope.
- 2 It would have been better to take the note with him. (*should*)

- 3 He left his address. The police found him. (*if*)

- 4 It was stupid to take his photo. (*shouldn't*)

- 5 They crashed the car. They didn't escape. (*if, could*)

- 6 He left photos of himself. He could have got away with it. (*if, might*)

- 7 They were so stupid. They didn't escape with the money. (*if*)

- 8 They listened to the manager. They didn't steal the money. (*if, could*)

- 9 It was silly to go back to the bank. (*shouldn't*)

- 10 It would have been better to just run away. (*should*)
