

Mini-Quiz 10

Modal verbs in the past

1. Match the structure to the use:

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| 1. could have + past participle | a. speculation about the past (slightly more probable) |
| | b. gentle criticism |
| 2. should have + past participle | c. past mistakes |
| | d. speculation about the past (slightly less probable) |
| 3. must have + past participle | e. things you believe are certain (about the past) |
| | f. recommendations and criticism about the past |
| 4. would have + past participle | g. ability in the past |
| | h. negative certainty in the past |
| 5. couldn't have + past participle | i. probability in the past that didn't happen |
| | j. past possibilities and their consequences |
| 6. might have + past participle | |
| 7. may have + past participle | |

2. Choose a, b, c or d.

- Someone _____ Robert about the surprise because he didn't seem very surprised.
a. should have told b. may have told c. must have told d. can't have tell
- Martha _____ yet. Her suitcase is still here.
a. can't leave b. can't have left c. must have left d. mustn't have left
- Ian _____ this book at the university, but he can't remember for sure.
a. might read b. can't have read c. must read d. might have read
- You _____ up this mess before mom got home. Now she is furious!
a. could have cleaned c. should clean
b. could clean d. should have cleaned

3. Are there any mistakes in the sentences below?

- When we went to the beach my friend was worried because he couldn't have swim.
- There is a new app that helps you learn English and Mary might download it.
- I was not be able to go to the party last week because I was travelling.

d. Mike said he was going to stay at home that night so he mustn't have gone to that party.

4. I am so angry with myself. I _____ for my exam instead of going to the party. I failed and I have to take the course again.

- a. shouldn't have studied c. should have studied
b. should have study d. shouldn't studied

5. A: Why is Mark not in class today?

B: I don't know. He _____ sick last night.

- a. might get b. might have gotten c. might gotten d. might have get

6. Sarah can't find her English book anywhere. She _____ in the classroom yesterday.

- a. may have leave b. might have leave c. may have left d. might has left

7. John was lucky to get out of the burning building on time. He _____ hurt.

- a. could have been b. must have been c. might have been hurt

8. I'm so sad! My algorithms recuperation exam was so hard that I _____ it even if I studied for a year!

- a. could have passed c. could have pass
b. couldn't have passed c. couldn't have pass

9. They _____ to Ibarra two hours ago but the bus was full and they couldn't get on.

- a. would arrived c. must have arrived
b. would have arrived d. would be arrived

9. Is the difference between could have + past participle and might/may have + past participle TRUE or FALSE?

Might/May have + past participle speculate while Could have + past participle refers to ability and capability in the past.