

Modals for Speculation and Future in the Past

A. Circle the appropriate modal to complete the sentence.

1. I can't find that email Josh sent with the directions to his house. I (could | must) have deleted it.
2. The living room looks nice. Rahmina (might | must) have cleaned today.
3. The thief (could | must) have come in through the window, but we don't know.
4. Karina (may | must) have talked to Jim, but I'm not sure.
5. Your car (could | must) have been stolen or towed away.

B. Complete the conversation with the correct modal *may*, *might*, *could*, or *must*.

1. **A:** Lily _____ have eaten the cake.

B: How do you know Lily ate it?

A: She was the only one at home this afternoon!

2. **A:** Someone sent me flowers!

B: How nice! Who sent them to you?

A: I don't know. There was no card...but it _____ have been my parents.

3. **A:** It _____ have rained last night.

B: Why do you say that?

A: All of the cars parked on the street are wet.

4. **A:** Where did I catch this terrible cold?

B: You _____ have caught it from Diane. She was coughing on Monday.

C. Complete the conversation with the future-in-the-past structure.

1. **A:** Hi, Vickie. What are you doing in the office? I thought you _____ be out of town on business this week?

B: That's right, but the trip was postponed.

2. **A:** This is carrot cake. You said you _____ make a chocolate cake.

B: A carrot cake seemed healthier so I made that instead.

3. **A:** What is Dan doing watching TV? He said he _____ study this afternoon.

B: I don't know...I guess he changed his mind!

D. Complete the sentence with the future-in-the-past structure.

1. I _____ relax this weekend.

2. Tomas and Luis _____ go fishing this weekend.

3. My mother _____ to make fish stew for dinner.

4. Sergey _____ stop by on his way to New York.

5. We _____ work in the yard this morning.