ACTIVITY 1:

Choose the most appropriate modal verb in the past to complete the following business sentences.

1) The project faced significant delays. The team _____ work longer hours to meet the final deadline. (obligation)

2) We explored several potential investors. We _____ partnered with the venture capital firm. (past possibility - not realized)

3) The sudden increase in their stock price been due to the announcement of their new product. (past deduction)

4) I intended to attend the industry seminar, but I was called away on urgent business. I learned a lot. (past intention - didn't happen)

5) The company's financial report showed a loss. They _____ implemented stricter cost-cutting measures earlier. (past recommendation - not followed)

ACTIVITY 2:

Rewrite the following sentences using the modal verb in parentheses to express the past meaning indicated.

1) It's likely the competitor launched a new product. (might have - past possibility)

2) They didn't fulfill their obligation to deliver the goods on time. (had to - past obligation)

3) Perhaps we considered expanding into the Asian market. (could have - past possibility - not realized)

4) It's almost certain that the system failure caused the data loss. (must have - past deduction)

5) It was advisable for the company to invest more in employee training. (should have - past recommendation - not followed).