

What Might Have Happened at the City Museum?

Part 1: Pre-Listening – Vocabulary Match

Match the words to their meanings.

Word/Phrase	Meaning
1. cordoned off	a. to try to take something illegally
2. shattered	b. marked by signs of fire or smoke
3. attempted	c. closed off with tape for security
4. overheated	d. broke suddenly into many pieces
5. hazardous	e. became too hot
6. spill	f. something that could cause harm
7. burnt areas	g. liquid that accidentally falls out

Part 2: While Listening – Comprehension Questions

Listen to the three people speculating. Answer the questions below.

1. What did **Mark** see near the museum entrance?

2. What **valuable item** does Mark think might have been stolen?
3. What **possible cause** of the incident does **Julia** mention first?
4. What **evidence** makes Julia doubt that a fire occurred?
5. What **noise** did **Carlos** hear the night before?
6. What **event** does Carlos think might have happened during the exhibition setup?
7. What **smell** did Carlos notice, and what might it suggest?

Part 3: Modal Verbs in Context – Complete the Sentences

Fill in the blanks with **must have**, **might have**, **could have**, or **can't have**.

1. Mark thinks someone _____ broken into the museum.
2. Julia believes a fire _____ started due to electrical problems.
3. There were no signs of fire, so it _____ been very serious.
4. Carlos says the noise he heard _____ been part of the incident.
5. The chemical smell _____ been caused by a hazardous spill.
6. Authorities _____ decided to close the museum for safety reasons.
7. It _____ been a planned closure, since there was no warning.