

REDUCTION OF MODALS PERFECT

by Julian Conde

I. Choose T (true) or F (false).

1. ___ The letter h in he, her, have, and had is always clearly pronounced in fast speech.
2. ___ In modal perfects, the word have is often reduced to /əv/ or /ə/.
3. ___ The phrase might have happened can sound like “mighta happened.”
4. ___ In should have done, native speakers usually stress the word have.
5. ___ In negative contractions, have can join with couldn't to form “couldn't've.”
6. ___ Inside a sentence, he, him, his, her often drop the h sound and connect to the previous word.
7. ___ The sentence If he comes, give him the message can sound like “iffy comes, givim the message.”
8. ___ The h sound is always dropped in short answers like Yes, I have.
9. ___ We keep the h sound when the word is emphasized or there's a pause before it.
10. ___ Reductions make speech faster and more natural for native speakers.

II. Listen and write the full form:

Example: You **should have** called **her** before leaving the house.

1. I _____ seen _____ at the mall yesterday.
2. They _____ finished it without _____ help.
3. Tell _____ we'll meet _____ after the movie.
4. He said _____ come, but _____ was too tired.

