

Part C — SONG FOCUS 1: 🎵 It Must Have Been Love 🎵

Roxette · 1990

A ballad about looking back on a relationship that has ended, and trying to make sense of how real it actually was.

● Before you listen

Based on the title alone, what do you think the singer is trying to decide? Is she certain the relationship was love, or is she still unsure?

● While you listen — Gap-Fill

Listen to the song (find it on YouTube/Spotify) and follow along on the lyric sheet. The hook line has been replaced with numbered blanks (1)–(9) throughout the song — write the missing phrase each time you hear it



----- (1)
But it's over now
Lay a whisper on my pillow
Leave the winter on the ground
I wake up lonely, this air of silence
In the bedroom and all around
Touch me now, I close my eyes
And dream away
Reff.

It ----- (2), but it's over now
It ----- (3), but I lost it somehow
It ----- (4), but it's over now
From the moment we touched, 'til the time had run out

Make-believing we're together
That I'm sheltered by your heart
But in and outside I turn to water
Like a teardrop in your palm
And it's a hard winter's day
I dream away

It ----- (5), but it's over now
It was all that I wanted, now I'm living without
It ----- (6), but it's over now

It's where the water flows
It's where the wind blows
Reff.



Yeah, it _____ (7), but it's over now
It was all that I wanted, now I'm living without
It _____ (8), but it's over now
It's where the water flows
It's where the wind blows
but it's over now
No, no, no

(It'll _____ (9))
(But it's over now) but it's over now
No, no, no)



Write your interpretation of meaning!

In 2–3 sentences, explain what you think the singer has concluded about the relationship by the end of the song.



After you listen — Comprehension

- 1 By the end of the song, does the singer sound like she has accepted that the relationship is over, or is she still confused? What clues tell you this?
- 2 Find the line that gives the song its title. What is she concluding about the relationship, and how certain does she sound?
- 3 The song mixes certainty ("must have been") with images of loss (an empty house, a heart breaking). Why do you think the songwriter combines these two ideas?



Grammar application

Using the line(s) you noted above as a model, write THREE new sentences of your own about a past relationship, situation, or mystery — one using *must have been*, one using *might have been*, and one using *can't have been*. Use your imagination; they do not need to be true.

- 1 must have been: _____
- 2 might have been: _____
- 3 can't have been: _____



Part D — Grammar Focus 2: Past Modals of Regret



SHOULD HAVE + past participle → something that was necessary but didn't happen (regret / criticism). e.g. I should have called her back — now she's upset with me.



SHOULDN'T HAVE + past participle → something happened, but it was the wrong choice
e.g. You shouldn't have said that to him — it really hurt his feelings.



Exercise 3 — True or False

Circle True or False for each statement about the grammar.

- ① We use must have been when we are almost certain something happened. [True / False]
- ② Can't have been expresses regret about a decision. [True / False]
- ③ Should have is used to talk about something that is still possible in the future. [True / False]
- ④ Might have been shows less certainty than must have been. [True / False]
- ⑤ Shouldn't have is followed by a base verb (V1), not a past participle. [True / False]



Exercise 4 — Choose the correct regret

Choose the phrase that best completes each sentence.

- ① I failed the test. I _____ harder.
a) must have studied b) should have studied c) can't have studied
- ② We got lost on the way here. We _____ a map.
a) should have used b) shouldn't have used c) must have used
- ③ He told her secret to everyone. He _____ it.
a) shouldn't have told b) should have told c) can't have told
- ④ She ignored all the warning signs. She _____ more attention.
a) shouldn't have paid b) must have paid c) should have paid
- ⑤ They spent all their savings on the trip. They _____ so much.
a) should have spent b) shouldn't have spent c) must have spent

