

May/might / could have – Speculating about the past. It was possible in the past but we are not sure.

Jane and Jack have been invited to the wedding but they haven't arrived yet. Everybody is waiting for them to arrive. People are making assumptions about what might have happened.



Rewrite these sentences using may/might/could (not) have.

1. Perhaps they have forgotten where we live.

2. It's possible they've lost our address.

3. There is a possibility that they didn't get our invitation.

4. Or maybe they thought it said Thursday, not Tuesday.

5. It's possible their car has broken down.

6. Perhaps they have been held up by a traffic jam in the centre.

7. Or maybe someone telephoned them when they were leaving.

8. Perhaps they've lost their way.

Fill in the blank spaces with “must + have+ past participle” to show that you are almost certain about something.

Must have – We are almost certain about our speculation or guess.

1. You (practise) a lot before you gave your speech. It was really great.
2. When Lizzie got home yesterday, there were flowers on the table. Her husband (buy) them.
3. Sarah couldn't find her glasses. She thought she (leave) them at her office.
4. Susie is so late! She (miss) the train.
5. There's rubbish all over my garden! A fox (be) in the bin.
6. Oh no, I don't have my keys! I (leave) them in the taxi.
7. When Lucy got home she found the ice cream had melted. It (be) too hot in the car.
8. It (rain) a lot in the night. There are puddles everywhere.