



ENGLISH

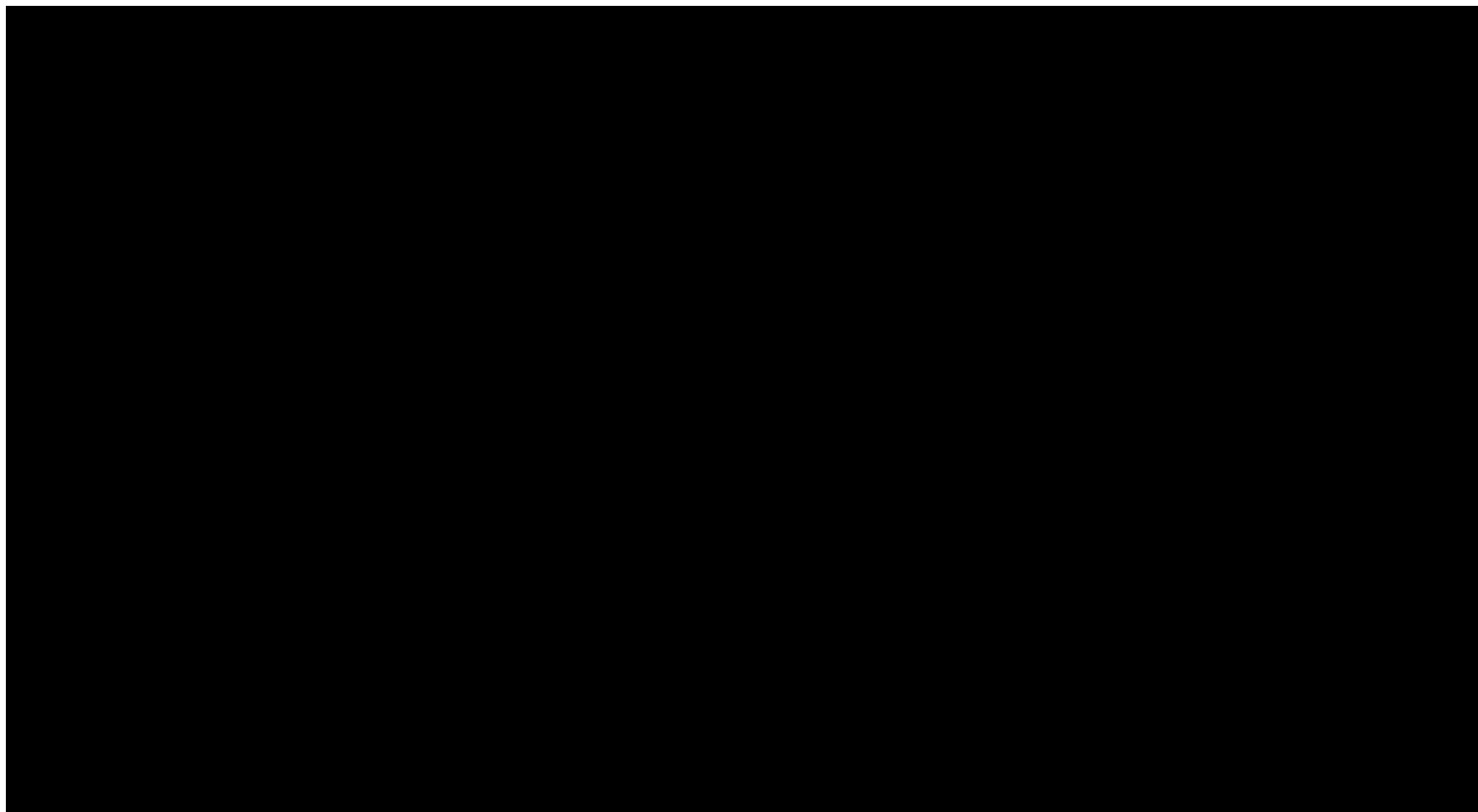
Chapter 8 Session A

4th
SECONDARY

MYSTERIES



 **SACO OLIVEROS**



Modal verbs of deduction and speculation

1 Read the examples and circle the correct option to complete the rules.

Present	Past
It must be a joke.	It must have been a joke.
It might be the artist's work.	It might have been the artist's work.
The figures could be a protest.	The figures could have been a protest.
It can't be an advertising stunt.	It couldn't/can't have been an advertising stunt.

- 1 We use *must* when we think that something is **definitely/possibly** true.
- 2 We use *could* and *might* when we think something is **definitely/possibly** true.
- 3 We use *can't* when we think something is **definitely not/possibly not** true.
- 4 To talk about the **present/past** we use the modal verb + base form, and to talk about the **present/past** we use modal verb + *have* + past participle.

2 Look at the photo and read what people said about it. Complete the sentences with *must*, *could*, *might* or *can't*. Do you agree?

- 1 The photo could/might be in Britain or it could/might be in another country. I'm not sure.
- 2 It must be in a town because there aren't any tunnels like this in villages.
- 3 She 's wearing a dress, so she can't be a runner. Definitely not.
- 4 She could/might know the photographer, or he could/might be a stranger.
- 5 She must want to go through the tunnel, or she wouldn't be there. I'm sure of that.
- 6 It can't be night time because I can see daylight at the end of the tunnel.



couldn't

We can use both *couldn't* and *can't* to speculate and make deductions about the past.

He *can't/couldn't* have had bad news.

3 Look at the photo and complete the sentences.
Use a modal and past form of the verbs in parentheses.

- 1 He **can't have had** bad news.
- 2 He **might have won** something.
- 3 He **could have got** a new job.
- 4 He **could have heard** something wonderful.
- 5 He **might have asked** his girlfriend to get married.
If so, she **must have said** 'yes'!



4. Complete the text with present or past modals and the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.



It ¹ **might/could be** (be) in a museum, or it ² **might/could be** (be) in an art gallery. It isn't clear. He ³ **must like** (like) the sculpture because he is taking a photo of it. Also, there ⁴ **can't be** (be) any rules about taking photos there. The photographer ⁵ **can't have taken** (take) the photo recently because the camera looks really old. I suppose he ⁶ **might/could be** (be) a history or art student. I'm not sure, but he ⁷ **might have done** (do) a project about this sculpture recently, and that's why he's there.



Modal verbs of deduction and speculation

1 **Reinforcement** Circle the correct option.

- 1 It's so hot today. It **must** ~~can't~~ be the hottest day of the year so far!
- 2 She's over an hour late. Her train ~~must be~~ **must have been** canceled.
- 3 What's this for? Do you think it **could** ~~must~~ be for grating cheese?
- 4 I love my present. You **must have** ~~must~~ spent hours looking for it.
- 5 Who's that at the door? It ~~can't~~ **could** be Adrian – he's in Canada right now.
- 6 If he'd tried harder, he **could** ~~can't~~ have won.



Complete the dialogue. Use *must*, *could/might* or *can't* in the present or the past with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses.

I've lost my phone. Have you seen it?

It ¹ might be (be) in the kitchen. You often leave it on the table.

No, I've looked there. It ² must be (be) somewhere in the house, though.

You ³ might have dropped (drop) it in the hallway when you were taking your coat off.



No, it ⁴ **can't be** (be) in the hallway. You ⁵ **must have put** (put) it somewhere when you were cleaning the kitchen.

I haven't put it anywhere. Did you check your pockets? It ⁶ **might be** (be) there.

Oh, I can hear it ringing. It's in the dishwasher! I ⁷ **must have left** (leave) it in there when I was putting the dishes in.



3 **Challenge** Write a second sentence which has the same meaning as the first. Use *must*, *could/might* or *can't* for speculation and deduction in the present or the past.

- 1 This ring possibly belonged to an ancient king.
- 2 It definitely isn't made of silver.
- 3 Perhaps it's made of gold.
- 4 It's definitely very old.
- 5 The ring was possibly buried with him.
- 6 It definitely wasn't left here by accident.





1. This ring might have belonged to an ancient king.
2. It can't be made of silver.
3. It could be made of gold.
4. It must be very old.
5. The ring might have been buried with him.
6. It can't have been left here by accident.





- 4 Challenge** Answer the questions about the pictures. Use modals for speculation and deduction.



- 1 What is he doing? Why?
He could be looking for something.



- 2 Why is the student sad?
She must have forgotten her homework.