

Past Modal Verbs of Deduction Exercise

She must have gone out	- <i>There is strong evidence.</i>
I might have made a mistake	- <i>There is a possibility that I made a mistake.</i>
He can't have been there.	- <i>It's impossible.</i>
You should have apologised	- <i>A criticism</i>
You shouldn't have said that.	- <i>A criticism</i>

A Fill the gaps with **must have**, **might have** or **can't have**.

- 1 Shestudied really hard. She passed all her exams with excellent grades.
- 2 You shouted at him. He'll never forgive you.
- 3 He arrived by now. It's only a 20 minute journey.
- 4 The concert was fantastic. You really come.
- 5 The boss is in a terrible mood. The meeting been good.
- 6 Sarah been so happy when she found out she was being promoted.
- 7 I had to wait 45 minutes for a bus yesterday. There been an accident or maybe a strike.
- 8 He bought a new car. He doesn't have any money.
- 9 Andrew did no revision for the exam but he's passed. I think he cheated.
- 10 I left my bicycle in front of the library and it's disappeared. Someone stolen it.
- 11 Clara was very upset with you yesterday. You apologised for saying she was lazy.
- 12 John has forgotten about the meeting. We reminded him about it yesterday.
- 13 I'm sorry but Samantha isn't here. She already left the office.
- 14 You tried to fix the roof yourself. You might have fallen off and been badly injured.
- 15 He known it was your birthday. Otherwise, I'm sure he would have wished you a happy day.

B Now write some examples of your own.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

Answers

- 1 She **must have** studied really hard. She passed all her exams with excellent grades.
- 2 You **shouldn't have** shouted at him. He'll never forgive you.
- 3 He **must have** arrived by now. It's only a 20 minute journey.
- 4 The concert was fantastic. You really **should have** come.
- 5 The boss is in a terrible mood. The meeting **can't have** been good.
- 6 Sarah **must have** been so happy when she found out she was being promoted.
- 7 I had to wait 45 minutes for a bus yesterday. There **might have** been an accident or maybe a strike.
- 8 He **can't have** bought a new car. He doesn't have any money.
- 9 Andrew did no revision for the exam but he's passed. I think he **might have** cheated.
- 10 I left my bicycle in front of the library and it's disappeared. Someone **must have** stolen it.
- 11 Clara was very upset with you yesterday. You **should have** apologised for saying she was lazy.
- 12 John has forgotten about the meeting. We **should have** reminded him about it yesterday.
- 13 I'm sorry but Samantha isn't here. She **must have** already left the office.
- 14 You **shouldn't have** tried to fix the roof yourself. You might have fallen off and been badly injured.
- 15 He **can't have** known it was your birthday. Otherwise, I'm sure he would have wished you a happy day.