

MODALS

PART – 2: MODALITY PROGRESSIVE & MODALITY PERFECT

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MODALITY PROGRESSIVE

- «**Modality progressive**» adds *the meaning of present or now* to modals. It adds a progressive or continuous meaning.
- It is formed by adding «**be + Ving**» to the modal auxiliary.
 - ✓ You **should have** plenty of rest and drink lots of fluids. (a general and future advice)
VERSUS
 - ✓ What are you doing here?! You **should be having** a rest in bed (now). (advice now)
 - ✓ He **cannot run** five kilometers a day. (general ability)
VERSUS
 - ✓ He **cannot be running** today; he hurt his ankle yesterday. (ability now)

© Ülkü Küçükakın

PROBABILITY: MODALITY PROGRESSIVE

- **Probability modals: Modality progressive**

1. To express *weak present probability*:

- might | be Ving
- may |
- could |

- ✓ The lights are still on in his room. He **might be still studying**.
- ✓ That tourist looks lost. He **might be looking** for the Grand Bazaar.
- ✓ Let's not leave right away. He **could be coming** right now.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

PROBABILITY: MODALITY PROGRESSIVE

2. To express *strong present probability*:

- must |
- mustn't | be Ving
- can't |

- ✓ Look at all the noise! My neighbours **must be practicing** music again.
- ✓ Zola **must be feeling** terrible because of her unexpected failure.
- ✓ These dogs do not look hungry at all. Someone **must be feeding** them regularly.
- ✓ Sam **can't be playing** outside; he was in his room just two minutes ago.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

ADVICE: MODALITY PROGRESSIVE

3. To express *present advice*:

- should | be Ving
- ought to |

- ✓ You have only five days left before the finals, so you **should be studying** right now.
- ✓ Janet, I am sorry but your daughter **should be sitting** at the back seat, not the front one.
- ✓ The government **ought to be fighting** against racism.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MODALITY PROGRESSIVE – SHORT SUMMARY

- might | be Ving } Weak probability
- may | be Ving }
- could | be Ving }
- must | be Ving } Strong Probability
- mustn't | be Ving }
- cannot | be Ving }
- should | be Ving } Advice
- ought to | be Ving }

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MODALITY PERFECT

- «**Have + V3**» has two different uses:
 1. **Present Perfect Tense** : «**have V3**» is used to form Present Perfect Tense. In this tense, «have V3» expresses a present meaning.
 2. *In all other places in English*, «**have V3**» expresses *a PAST MEANING!*

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MODALITY PERFECT

- Modals express a past meaning in two ways:
 - ✓ can – could
 - ✓ will – would
 - ✓ have to – had to
 - ✓ am/is/are able to – was/were able to
- Second way to give past meaning to modals: Modality Perfect:
 - «**MODAL + HAVE V3**»

© Ülkü Küçükakın

ADVISE: MODALITY PERFECT

- Types of modality perfect:
- 1. «**SHOULD HAVE V3**» «**OUGHT TO HAVE V3**» express *a past advice*.
- «**Should / ought to have V3**» means that it was advisable for you to do it, but you did not do it.
 - ✓ I **should have called** you before coming to visit.
= It was a good idea to call you, but I did not.
 - ✓ You **ought to have showed** more confidence during your interview.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

PROBABILITY: MODALITY PERFECT

- 2. MIGHT
MAY
COULD | HAVE V3:
- They express *a weak possibility in the past*.
 - ✓ Our supervisor is not treating us badly anymore. The boss **might have warned** him about his behaviours.
= It is possible that the boss warned him, but I am not sure.
 - ✓ Our ancestors **may have lived** healthier lives when they were hunting and gathering.
= It is possible that they lived healthier lives, but I am not sure.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

PROBABILITY: MODALITY PERFECT

- The structure «**might have / may have / could have V3**» is very commonly used in If Type 3.
 - ✓ If I **had studied** harder, I **might have received** better grades.
- This point will be covered in detail under «If Conditionals».

© Ülkü Küçükakın

STRONG PROBABILITY: MODALITY PERFECT

3. «MUST HAVE V3»

- «**Must have V3**» expresses *a strong past possibility*.
 - ✓ A thief **must have stolen** my keys when we were in the cafe.
= It is highly likely that a thief stole my keys.
 - ✓ The remote control is not working. My daughter **must have dropped** it while playing with it.
= It is highly likely that my daughter dropped it.
 - ✓ The copyright owner **must have restricted** access only to in-campus users.

!!! «Must have V3» is NOT used to express strong past advice!!!

© Ülkü Küçükakın

STRONG PROBABILITY: MODALITY PERFECT

4. «CAN'T HAVE V3 MUSTN'T HAVE V3»

- They express *strong negative past probability*.
 - ✓ The thief **can't have stolen** the keys in the cafe; I saw them in your hand after we left the cafe.
= It is not likely that the thief stole the keys in the cafe.
 - ✓ Ottis was here only two minutes ago, so he **can't have left** the building yet.
= It is not likely that he left the building.
 - ✓ The dog didn't eat what we gave him. He **mustn't have been** very hungry.
= Most probably, the dog was not very hungry.

!!! «mustn't have V3» is not a very common use; we usually prefer «can't have V3» for strong negative past probability.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MISSED OPPORTUNITY: MODALITY PERFECT

5. COULD HAVE V3

- «**Could have V3**» expresses *past regrets and missed opportunities*.
 - ✓ I **could have gone** abroad to study after college.
 - ✓ Mindy and Rob **could have got** married, but Rob just couldn't make up his mind.
- «**Could have V3**» is commonly used in If type 3 to express missed opportunity.
 - ✓ Wesley **could have been promoted** if he had kept his mouth shut.
- *A MOVIE: On the Waterfront (1954) (Starring Marlon Brando)*

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MISSED OPPORTUNITY: MODALITY PERFECT

- «**Could have V3**» expresses *past regrets and missed opportunities*.

« You don't understand!

I **could've had** class.

I **could've been** a contender (boxer).

I **could've been** somebody!

Instead of a bum, which is what I am.

Let's face it.»

© Ülkü Küçükakın

REMEMBER...

- Among all modality perfect structures, only «**could have V3**» has two different meanings.
- First meaning: Past probability
 - ✓ My pen **could have dropped** after I put it in my bag.
- Second meaning: Missed opportunity
 - ✓ You **could have saved** a lot of money by buying a cheaper pen.

LACK OF NECESSITY: MODALITY PERFECT

6. «NEEDN'T HAVE V3»

- «**Needn't have V3**» means that it was not necessary to do something, but you still did it.

- ✓ You **needn't have bought** expensive gifts for my birthday; a simple gift could have made me happy.
- ✓ You **needn't have called** before coming; you can come anytime you like.

! REMEMBER: «DIDN'T NEED TO»: It was not necessary to do something, so I did not do it.

- ✓ I **didn't need to think** of a present for her birthday because we bought a nice present for her together with friends.

© Ülkü Küçükakın

MODALITY PERFECT: A SHORT SUMMARY

Types of modality perfect structures:

1. Should / ought to have V3: Past advice
2. Might / may / could have V3: Past weak probability
3. Must have V3: Past strong positive probability
4. Mustn't have V3 / Can't have V3: Past strong negative probability
5. Could have V3: Missed opportunity
6. Needn't have V3: Lack of past necessity

© Ülkü Küçükakın

THANK YOU...

& EXERCISE TIME!!!

© Ülkü Küçükakın