

G past modals: *must have*, etc., *would rather*

V verbs often confused

P weak form of *have*

## 1 GRAMMAR past modals: *must have*, etc.



- a Look at the photo. With a partner, predict who the people are, where they are, and what they are arguing about. Use *could be*, *can't be*, and *must be*.

(They *can't be* a family, because... They *must be*...

- b **7.1** Listen and check. Who is the 'guilty' person in the photo?
- c **7.2** Listen to some extracts from the conversation again and complete them with *could have*, *might have*, *must have*, *can't have*, or *should have*.

- 1 You \_\_\_\_\_ finished it.
- 2 One of you \_\_\_\_\_ used it.
- 3 It \_\_\_\_\_ been me.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ drunk it last night...?
- 5 Someone \_\_\_\_\_ given it to the cat.
- 6 ...you \_\_\_\_\_ put your name on it.

- d Look at the gapped phrases 1–6 in c and think about what they mean. Then with a partner, match them to meanings A–D. Write the number in the box before each phrase.

Which phrase (or phrases) means you think...?

- A ☐ it's very probable (or almost certain) that something happened or somebody did something
- B ☐ it's possible that something happened or somebody did something
- C ☐ it's impossible that something happened or somebody did something
- D ☐ somebody didn't do the right thing

- e **G p.144 Grammar Bank 7A**

## 2 PRONUNCIATION weak form of *have*

*have* When he got home, he realized he ~~must of~~ left his bag at school, so he ran back, but when he

- a Look at an extract from a British child's homework above. Why do you think the child made that mistake?

### Weak form of *have*

When *have* is an auxiliary verb, it is usually contracted in spoken English, e.g. *I've*, *you've*. If it's not contracted, it's pronounced /əv/, e.g. after a modal verb. The pronunciation is exactly the same as the weak form of *of*.

- b **7.5** Now listen to six sentences with past modals and repeat.
- c **7.6** Listen and write six sentences with either *have* or *of*.
- d In pairs, read the conversations and complete B's responses with your own ideas (for responses 5–8 you also need to use *must have*, *might have*, *should have*, or *can't have*). Then practise the conversations.

- 1 A It was my birthday yesterday!  
B You should have *told me*.
- 2 A I can't find my phone anywhere.  
B You must have \_\_\_\_\_.
- 3 A I definitely said we were meeting them at 7.00.  
B They may have \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4 A I'm so tired. I can't keep my eyes open.  
B You shouldn't have \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5 A I failed my piano exam.  
B \_\_\_\_\_.
- 6 A Why do you think Fiona and Brian broke up?  
B \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7 A Alberto didn't come to class yesterday.  
B \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 A We're going to be late. There's so much traffic.  
B \_\_\_\_\_.



### 3 READING & SPEAKING

- a Imagine four young people in their 20s are sharing a flat. Which of the things in the list do you think cause the most arguments? Number them 1–5.

food	housework	money
noise	visitors	

- b Read an article for students about typical arguments in a shared house. What two categories are mentioned that are not in the list in a?

- c Read the problems again. Then complete the article with solutions A–H.

- A Don't pay in your share, either, and wait until the wi-fi gets cut off. Then suddenly, everyone will pay.
- B Before you move in, get everyone to write their name on a piece of paper, and put them in a hat. The first person to be picked chooses first.
- C Encourage everyone to have a go. Don't criticize other people's attempts. Try to help them improve.
- D Get some ear plugs. Wax ones are the best.
- E Have a rota for all jobs, including washing-up, drying, cleaning, and tidying.
- F If you often need to get ready at similar times, take turns to go first.
- G Make sure everyone has their own fridge shelf space and cupboard space.
- H Suggest that if they are going to stay over often, then maybe they should contribute to rent / bills.

- d Talk to a partner.

- 1 Look at the two solutions to each problem. Which one do you think is better? Can you suggest any other solutions?
- 2 Which problem would you find the most annoying? Have you ever had to deal with any of these problems yourself? What did you do?

#### Glossary

**the direct debit 'bounced'** a bill that was supposed to be paid automatically through the bank wasn't paid because there wasn't enough money in the account

## Classic student house arguments – and how to avoid them

Living in a shared student house can be one of university's greatest pleasures, but arguments will happen. What are the solutions?

**Who gets the biggest room when moving in?** There's always one housemate who is convinced they have the right to the biggest room.

**Solutions:**

- Adjust the rent, so that the person with the biggest room pays more.

1

**The mess in the kitchen** You come home from a long day at uni and can't get to the sink because of the enormous pile of pots and pans.

**Solutions:**

- Establish the 30-minute rule – nothing stays unwashed for over 30 minutes.

2

**The housemate whose boyfriend / girlfriend spends more time in your house than their own** They definitely do not live at your house, but you see them more than some of your housemates. And they use the electricity, the water, the wi-fi...

**Solutions:**

- Explain why it's annoying. It isn't personal, but with them there, there's less space for the rest of you.

3

**How to pay and split the bills** The joint account seemed like a good idea until some people's money stopped going in, and the direct debit 'bounced' (incurring a charge), and the electricity bill, which was enormous, was forgotten about (another charge), and someone has gone to South America for three months.

**Solutions:**

- Get everyone to put in more money than will be needed in the account – then later pay the excess back (this is a good way of keeping a little extra cash in reserve, too).

4

**Taking too long in the bathroom** What are they doing in there?

**Solutions:**

- Have a kind word about the fact that there's only one bathroom.

5

**When they come in at 3 a.m., waking everybody up the night before an exam.**

**Solutions:**

- Make sure your housemates know if you have to be up early for something. Likewise, let them know if you intend to be back late.

6

**Food stealing, 'borrowing' clothes, etc.** 'It was just there, so I took it.'

**Solutions:**

- Label your stuff, so that it's obvious what's yours.

7

**Who can't cook, who won't cook?** Why is it always you who's left alone to make dinner in the evening? How come as soon as you've finished, everyone suddenly appears?

**Solutions:**

- Draw up a cooking rota, so you know whose turn it is.

8



## 4 LISTENING & SPEAKING



- a **C** Read the situation below. Then go to **Communication** Argument! A p.109 B p.113 Role-play an argument.

You share a flat with someone you didn't know before. At first, you got on really well, but recently there have been several things that have been annoying you, which you've both avoided talking about. Now you think the time has come to have a talk about them.

- b **7.7** Listen to a psychologist giving some tips about how to argue better. Which two general points does she make?
- ☐ Never avoid an argument by refusing to talk.
  - ☐ Try to avoid having an argument in the first place.
  - ☐ It isn't a bad thing to argue from time to time.
  - ☐ Always involve another person to mediate.
- c Listen again. Tick (✓) the ones you should say and cross (X) the ones you shouldn't. Why are they right or wrong?
- ☐ 'Look, you're not doing your share of the housework.'
  - ☐ 'I think we should have another look at how we divide up the housework.'
  - ☐ 'Sorry, it was my fault.'
  - ☐ 'You always forget our wedding anniversary.'
  - ☐ 'I didn't mean to shout. I'd rather we didn't argue, but this is very important to me.'
  - ☐ 'And another thing: I was really disappointed with my birthday present.'
  - ☐ 'I'd rather talk about this tomorrow, when we've both calmed down.'
- d Look at the things in c that the psychologist recommends you should say in an argument. Then do the **Communication** activity in a again, with a new partner. Try to follow the psychologist's advice.

### e Grammar in context would rather

- Listen, **I'd rather talk** about this tomorrow, when we've both calmed down.
  - I'd rather we didn't argue**, but this is very important to me.
- 1 We use **would rather** with the infinitive without to to talk about present / future preferences, as an alternative to **would prefer to**.
- I'd rather go on holiday in July than August.  
Would you rather stay in or go out tonight?  
I'd rather not go out tonight. I'm really tired.*
- NOT** *I'd not rather.*
- 2 We can also use **would rather** + person + past tense to talk about what we would like another person to do, as an alternative to *I would prefer it if...*, e.g. *I'd rather you came on Saturday; I'm a bit busy on Friday. I'd rather you didn't smoke in here, if you don't mind.*

Rewrite the **highlighted** phrases using **would rather**.

- I'd prefer to go to the cinema** than to a club.
- I'd prefer not to go to the party** if my ex is going to be there.
- Would you prefer to meet** on Thursday morning or afternoon?
- I'd prefer it if you didn't** take photos.
- I'd prefer it if your parents stayed** in a hotel and not with us.

- f Work in pairs. Look at the options and take turns to ask and answer. Say why.

Would you rather...?

- live on your own or share a flat with friends
- do an English course in London or New York
- have a summer holiday or a winter holiday
- stay up very late or get up very early
- go to a concert or a sporting event

## 5 VOCABULARY verbs often confused

- a **7.8** Listen to six short extracts. What's happening? Use a verb from the list.

advise argue deny discuss refuse warn

- 1 *He's denying something.*

- b **V p.158 Vocabulary Bank Verbs often confused**



c Complete the questions with the correct verb from each pair, in the right form. Then ask and answer with a partner.

- 1 Do you \_\_\_\_\_ if people are a bit late when you have arranged to meet them, or do you think it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_?  
**matter / mind**
- 2 Can you usually \_\_\_\_\_ family birthdays, or do you need somebody to \_\_\_\_\_ you? **remember / remind**
- 3 Have you ever been \_\_\_\_\_ when you were on holiday? What was \_\_\_\_\_? **rob / steal**
- 4 What would you \_\_\_\_\_ people to do if they want to come to your country in the summer? What might you \_\_\_\_\_ them to be careful about? **advise / warn**
- 5 Do you think taking vitamin C helps to \_\_\_\_\_ colds? What other things can people do to \_\_\_\_\_ catching colds?  
**avoid / prevent**
- 6 Do you ever \_\_\_\_\_ clothes from friends or family? Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_ clothes to someone which they then ruined?  
**borrow / lend**
- 7 Have you ever \_\_\_\_\_ a cup or medal for anything? Are there any games or sports where you absolutely hate being \_\_\_\_\_? **beat / win**

## 6 READING & WRITING

- a Read the article once. Which of the tips do you think could also apply to a face-to-face argument? Which do you think are the most important?
- b Look at some examples of posts on ChangeMyView. Which advice in the article could you use to improve the **highlighted** phrases? What could you change them to?

- 1 **You must be crazy!** Everybody knows that it will never be possible to completely eradicate plastic.
- 2 **According to my mother,** children who grow up bilingual find it easier to learn a third language.
- 3 **You're completely wrong to say that** all young people are addicted to technology.

c Work in groups of four. Each take one of the arguments below, and write a response arguing either for or against the statement.

- 1 Private schools and hospitals should be abolished.
- 2 The best way to save the planet is to become a vegan.
- 3 It's impossible to like the works of an artist or musician if you think they were bad people.
- 4 People should not be allowed to inherit money or property from their parents.

d Pass your paper to the next person in the group, and continue the thread. When you have all responded to each statement, read all the comments on each one. Who do you think argued most effectively, and why?

### Glossary

**thread** a series of connected messages on a message board on the internet which have been sent by different people, e.g. a Twitter ~

# How to win an online argument

When it comes to arguing face-to-face, many people use persuasive intonation or facial expressions to help win the argument. However, these are no use when you want to argue your case online. A recent study of comment threads on online forums has found that some words are more effective than others and that using numbers makes you more persuasive. Lillian Lee and her PhD students at Cornell University analysed almost two years of posts made on the forum site ChangeMyView, a website where users invite others to challenge their views and present alternative opinions.

## The best ways to win an argument

**Get your timing right** Typically, the first person to reply to the thread has a greater chance of changing the view of the original poster (OP) than someone who joins the debate later on.

**Use alternative terminology** Use words that are different from those used in the post. For example, if discussing climate change, describing it as *global warming* in a reply makes more of an impact than using the same terminology as the OP.

**Be polite** The study suggests that swearing or using aggressive terms instantly makes your argument less effective.

**Think about length** Longer replies in general tend to be seen as more persuasive.

**Use evidence** Using numbers, statistics, and examples to back up opinions makes people sound more convincing. The same is true of links to examples and outside sources.

**Show consideration for other's opinions** Phrases like 'It could be the case that...' or 'It may be true that...' show that you are open to other points of view. Although this sounds like it might signal a weaker argument, the researchers said it may make your argument easier to accept, by softening its tone.

**Check the language in the original post** Personal pronouns, such as *I*, suggest that a person is more open-minded to persuasion, whereas *we* and *us* suggest they are more stubborn. Stubborn people also use more emotive language and use decisive words such as *certain*, *nothing*, and *best*.

**Know when to give up** Finally, the researchers found that after four or five 'back-and-forth' posts have been made, the chances of changing someone's opinion significantly drops.



## past modals

**must, may / might / could, can't / couldn't + have + past participle**



- 1 I **must have left** my phone at Anna's. I definitely remember having it there. 7.3  
You **must have seen** something. You were there when the accident happened.
- 2 Somebody **might have stolen** your wallet when you were getting off the train.  
I wonder why she's not here. I suppose she **could have forgotten** about the meeting.  
He still hasn't arrived. I **may not have given** him the right directions.
- 3 She **can't have gone** to work. Her car's still there.  
You **couldn't have seen** their faces very clearly. It was too dark.

• We use **must, may / might / could, or can't / couldn't + have + past participle** to make deductions or speculate about past actions.

- 1 We use **must have** when we are almost sure that something happened or was true.

The opposite of **must have** is **can't have NOT mustn't have** – see 3.

- 2 We use **might / may / could + have** when we think it's possible that something happened or was true.

• We can also use **may / might not have** (but **NOT couldn't have**) to talk about the possibility that something didn't happen. **NOT I couldn't have given him the right directions.**

- 3 We use **can't have** and **couldn't have** when we are almost sure something didn't happen or that it is impossible. We only use **couldn't have** when the speculation is about the distant past, e.g. *They couldn't have been married. They both died young.*

**should have / ought to have + past participle**

We've gone the wrong way. We **should have turned** left at the traffic lights. 7.4

It's my fault. I **ought to have told** you earlier that my party was on Saturday.

- We use **should / shouldn't + have + past participle** to say that somebody didn't do the right thing, or to express regret or criticism.
- We can use **ought / oughtn't to have** as an alternative to **should / shouldn't have**, e.g. *I ought to have told you earlier.*
- **must have** and **should have** have completely different meanings. Compare:  
*She should have phoned me.* = I told her to phone me but she didn't.  
and  
*She must have phoned me.* = I'm sure she phoned me. I think that missed call was her number.

- a Rewrite the **bold** sentences using **must / might (not) / can't + have + verb**.

I'm certain I left my umbrella at home.

*I must have left my umbrella at home.*

- 1 Holly's crying. **Perhaps she's had an argument with her boyfriend.** She...
- 2 I'm sure Ben has read my email. I sent it first thing this morning. Ben...
- 3 I'm sure Sam and Ginny haven't got lost. They have satnav in their car. They...
- 4 You saw Ellie yesterday? **That's impossible.** She was in bed with flu. You...
- 5 **Perhaps John didn't see you.** That's why he didn't say hello. John...
- 6 I'm sure Lucy has bought a new car. I saw her driving a blue VW Golf! Lucy...
- 7 I'm sure Alex wasn't very ill. He was only off work for one day. Alex...
- 8 They didn't go to Tom's wedding. **Maybe they weren't invited.** They...
- 9 This tastes very sweet. I'm sure you used too much sugar. You...
- 10 It definitely wasn't my phone that rang in the cinema. Mine was on silent. It...

- b Respond to the first sentence using **should / shouldn't have** or **ought / oughtn't to have + a verb from the list**.

buy drive go invite learn sit take write

- A We couldn't understand anybody in Paris.
- B You **should have learned** some French before going.
- 1 A Tom told me the date of his party, but I've forgotten it.  
B You \_\_\_\_\_ it down.
- 2 A Sorry I'm late! The traffic was terrible.  
B You \_\_\_\_\_ here. The metro is faster.
- 3 A Amanda was rude to everyone at my party.  
B You \_\_\_\_\_ her. You know what she's like.
- 4 A I don't have any money left after going shopping.  
B You \_\_\_\_\_ so many shoes.
- 5 A You look really tired.  
B I know. I \_\_\_\_\_ to bed earlier last night.
- 6 A The chicken's still frozen solid.  
B I know. You \_\_\_\_\_ it out of the freezer earlier.
- 7 A I think I've burned my face.  
B I'm not surprised. You \_\_\_\_\_ in the sun all afternoon without any sunscreen.

# Verbs often confused

## VOCABULARY BANK

a Complete the **verbs** column with the correct verb in the right form.

	verbs
<b>argue / discuss</b> 1 I need to <input type="text"/> the problem with my boss. 2 I often <input type="text"/> with my parents about doing housework.	 _____ (= talk about sth) _____ (= speak angrily to sb)
<b>notice / realize</b> 3 I didn't <input type="text"/> you were so unhappy. 4 I didn't <input type="text"/> that Karen had changed her hair colour.	 _____ (= understand fully, become aware of sth) _____ (= see, observe)
<b>avoid / prevent</b> 5 Jack always tries to <input type="text"/> arguing with me. 6 My dad can't <input type="text"/> me from seeing my friends.	 _____ (= try not to do something) _____ (= stop)
<b>lend / borrow</b> 7 When are you going to pay me back the £50 that I <input type="text"/> you? 8 Could I <input type="text"/> your car tonight? I know you're not using it.	 _____ (= give sth to sb that you want them to give back) _____ (= ask for sth that you intend to give back)
<b>mind / matter</b> 9 My parents don't <input type="text"/> if I stay out late. 10 It doesn't <input type="text"/> if we're five minutes late.	 _____ (= have a problem / feel strongly) _____ (= be a problem)
<b>remember / remind</b> 11 Can you <input type="text"/> me to call my mum later? 12 <input type="text"/> to turn off the lights before you go.	 _____ (= help sb to remember) _____ (= not forget)
<b>expect / wait</b> 13 I <input type="text"/> that Daniel will forget our anniversary. He always does. 14 We'll have to <input type="text"/> half an hour for the next train.	 _____ (= think that sth will happen) _____ (= stay where you are until something happens)
<b>wish / hope</b> 15 I <input type="text"/> I was a bit taller! 16 I <input type="text"/> that you can come on Friday. I haven't seen you for ages.	 _____ (= want sth to be true, even if it is unlikely or impossible) _____ (= want sth to happen)
<b>beat / win</b> 17 Arsenal <input type="text"/> the match 5-2. 18 Arsenal <input type="text"/> Manchester United 5-2.	 _____ (= be successful in a competition) _____ (= defeat sb)
<b>refuse / deny</b> 19 Tom always <input type="text"/> to discuss the problem. 20 Tom always <input type="text"/> that he has a problem.	 _____ (= say you don't want to do sth) _____ (= say that sth isn't true)
<b>raise / rise</b> 21 The cost of living is going to <input type="text"/> again this month. 22 It's hard not to <input type="text"/> your voice when you're arguing with someone.	 _____ (= go up) _____ (= make sth go up)
<b>lay</b> (past <i>laid</i> , past participle <i>lain</i> ) / <b>lie</b> (past <i>lay</i> , past participle <i>lain</i> ) 23 Go and <input type="text"/> on the bed if you're tired. 24 I usually <input type="text"/> my baby on the bed to change his nappy.	 _____ (= put your body in a horizontal position) _____ (= put sth or sb in a horizontal position)
<b>steal / rob</b> 25 The men had been planning to <input type="text"/> the bank. 26 If you leave your bike unlocked, somebody might <input type="text"/> it.	 _____ (= take sth from a person or place by threat or force) _____ (= take money or property that isn't yours)
<b>advise / warn</b> 27 I think I should <input type="text"/> you that Liam doesn't always tell the truth. 28 My teachers are going to <input type="text"/> me what subjects to study next year.	 _____ (= tell sb that sth unpleasant is likely to happen) _____ (= tell sb what you think they should do)

b 7.9 Listen and check.

**ACTIVATION** Cover the verbs column. Say the sentences with the correct verbs.