

## Past Modal Verbs - Worksheet 1 – ANSWERS



### Exercise 1: Gap-Fill (Choosing the Correct Past Modal) – Answers

1. You **must have been** really tired after that long journey.  
→ "Must have" is used to express certainty about the past.
2. She **should have studied** more for the test; she failed it.  
→ "Should have" expresses criticism or regret.
3. He **must have eaten** all the cake – there's none left!  
→ "Must have" shows certainty about a past event.
4. I **should have locked** the door! Now my wallet has been stolen.  
→ "Should have" is used for regret or criticism.
5. They **might have gone** to the party, but I'm not sure.  
→ "Might have" shows uncertainty about the past.
6. She **can't have forgotten** about the appointment; she's normally very punctual.  
→ "Can't have" expresses certainty that something didn't happen.
7. We **could have taken** the earlier train, but we didn't.  
→ "Could have" shows a past possibility that didn't happen.
8. He **might have known** about the meeting, but he wasn't there.  
→ "Might have" expresses uncertainty.
9. That noise **can't have come** from next door. They're on holiday!  
→ "Can't have" expresses certainty that something didn't happen.
10. You **shouldn't have bought** so much food; we can't eat all of this!  
→ "Shouldn't have" is used for criticism or regret.



### Exercise 2: Multiple Choice (Choosing the Correct Modal) – Answers

1. He looks exhausted. He **must have** been working all night. ✓
2. The shop **might have** closed early because no one was there. ✓
3. I **can't have** left my phone at home – I just had it a moment ago! ✓
4. You **shouldn't have** spent all your money already! ✓
5. The weather was awful, so they **couldn't have** gone to the beach. ✓
6. She **can't have** seen him; she was at home the whole evening. ✓
7. I **must have** forgotten my umbrella. Now I'm completely soaked! ✓
8. He **might have** known that it was your birthday, but he didn't say anything. ✓
9. I **should have** trained harder for the marathon – my legs hurt so much now. ✓
10. You **must have** heard what she said. It was very important! ✓