

Past Modal Verbs - Worksheet 1



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

Instructions: Complete the sentences using the correct past modal verb (**must have, can't have, couldn't have, might have, may have, should have, shouldn't have**).

1. You _____ (be) really tired after that long journey.
 2. She _____ (study) more for the test; she failed it.
 3. He _____ (eat) all the cake – there's none left!
 4. I _____ (lock) the door! Now my wallet has been stolen.
 5. They _____ (go) to the party, but I'm not sure.
 6. She _____ (forget) about the appointment; she's normally very punctual.
 7. We _____ (take) the earlier train, but we didn't.
 8. He _____ (know) about the meeting, but he wasn't there.
 9. That noise _____ (come) from next door. They're on holiday!
 10. You _____ (buy) so much food; we can't eat all of this!
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Exercise 2: Multiple Choice (Choosing the Correct Modal)

Instructions: Choose the correct past modal verb to complete the sentence.

1. He looks exhausted. He _____ been working all night.
 - a) must have
 - b) could have
 - c) shouldn't have
2. The shop _____ closed early because no one was there.
 - a) must have
 - b) might have
 - c) can't have
3. I _____ left my phone at home – I just had it a moment ago!
 - a) must have
 - b) can't have
 - c) should have

4. You _____ spent all your money already! It's only the beginning of the month.
 - a) must have
 - b) shouldn't have
 - c) couldn't have

5. The weather was awful, so they _____ gone to the beach.
 - a) couldn't have
 - b) should have
 - c) must have

6. She _____ seen him; she was at home the whole evening.
 - a) might have
 - b) must have
 - c) can't have

7. I _____ forgotten my umbrella. Now I'm completely soaked!
 - a) shouldn't have
 - b) must have
 - c) can't have

8. He _____ known that it was your birthday, but he didn't say anything.
 - a) can't have
 - b) might have
 - c) should have

9. I _____ trained harder for the marathon – my legs hurt so much now.
 - a) should have
 - b) must have
 - c) couldn't have

10. You _____ heard what she said. It was very important!
 - a) must have
 - b) should have
 - c) might have