MODAL VERBS

CAN COULD MAY MIGHT SHALL SHOULD WILL WOULD

MUST HAVE

MUST HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

We use it to make a deduction about something that has happened. We feel quite sure about it.

If you can't find your car keys you must have left them in the house.

CAN'T HAVE

CAN'T HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

We are making a deduction about something that didn't happen in the past based on present evidence.

Example:

He can't have fallen in love with her. She's married.

SHOULD HAVE

SHOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

Use it to express the idea that something was desirable or needed but didn't take place.

Example

I should have called you yesterday but I forgot.

Shouldn't have: Something took place but it

wasn't desirable: You shouldn't have drunk so much. Now you feel terrible.

NEEDN'T HAVE

NEEDN'T HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

It's the opposite meaning to 'should have'.
It indicates that something was done but it wasn't necessary. The person who did it thought it was necessary.

Example:

You needn't have bought more milk. We've got too much.

MIGHT/MAY/COULD HAVE

MIGHT/MAY/COULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE Use them to say that something was possible in the past but we are not sure.

Example:

Ithink I saw Sally at the cinema but I might /may /could have been wrong. It was very dark.

MIGHT/COULD HAVE

MIGHT/COULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

Use them to say that something was possible in the past but we know that it didn't in fact happen.

Example:

If Mary hadn't been there, my son might/could have fallen down and hurt himself. He was so lucky.

Didn't need to vs Needn't have done

 didn't need to + infinitive = it was not necessary to do sth

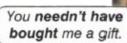
It shows that an action did not happen in the past because we knew it was not necessary.

They didn't need to cut any more wood. (=It wasn't necessary for them to cut any more wood, so they didn't).



needn't have + past participle = it was not necessary to do sth, but it was done

It shows that an action happened in the past, even though it was not necessary.



(= It wasn't necessary for him to buy her a gift, but he did.)



Compare these different uses.

MAY/MIGHT NOT HAVE

Possibly something did not happen.

Daniel may not have caught the bus. I expect he missed it.

(Perhaps he didn't catch it.)

I might not have locked the door.

(Perhaps I didn't lock it.)

COULDN'T HAVE

It is impossible that something happened.

Daniel couldn't have caught the bus. It doesn't run on Sundays.

(It is impossible for him to have caught the bus.)

Exercise 1

Choose the correct answer using couldn't or couldn't have + a necessary verb

1)	I in a big city. I'd hate it. a) couldn't lived b) couldn't live
2)	We had a really good holiday. It better. a) couldn't have been b)
	could been
3)	I that hat. I'd look silly and people would laugh at me.
	a) couldn't wear b) could have worn
4)	Paul has to get up at 4 o'clock every morning. I get up at that time
	every day. a) couldn't get b) couldn't have waken
5)	The staff at the hotel were really nice and friendly when we stayed there last
	summer. They more helpful. a) couldn't have been b) could be
6)	Thank you for your invitation to the party last week, but I anyway. I
	was away. a) couldn't come b) couldn't have come

Exercise 2

Choose the correct answer

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	locked b) should locked	
2)	I can't sleep sometimes. My neighbors play music all night. They play	
	music all night. a) shouldn't play b) shouldn't have played	
3)	The picnickers left litter everywhere. They it. a) shouldn't done	
	b)shouldn`t have done	
4)	Emma hadn't paid much attention and caused an accident. She more	
	careful. a) should have been b) should been	
5)	Where is your bag? You it in the living room.	
	a) must left b)must have left	
6)	You these flowers, I have already bought them.	
	a) needn't have bought b) didn't need have bought	
7)	I a coat yesterday because it was warm.	
	a) didn't need to wear b) didn't need worn	
Exercise 3		
Comp	plete the sentences using the words in bold	
-	Plete the sentences using the words in bold Γ m completely soaked! We umbrella.	
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1)	Γm completely soaked! We umbrella.	
1)	Γm completely soaked! We umbrella. should/ taken	
1)	Γ'm completely soaked! We umbrella. should/ taken Γ've lost my bag. I think must/ lost It`s a shame we didn`t go on holiday. We fun.	
1) 2) 3)	I'm completely soaked! We umbrella. should/ taken I've lost my bag. I think must/ lost It's a shame we didn't go on holiday. We fun. could/ had	
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Exercise 4

Correct the sentences

- 1) Susan may to know the address.
- 2) We ought be careful.
- 3) I was able finishing all my work.

- 4) You must had had a terrible experience when you stayed at that hotel.
- 5) Nancy couldn't have being at work yesterday, she had a day off.
- 6) You might not have receive my message last weekend.
- 7) The report has to be on my desk yesterday, but you haven't done it yet.
- 8) When I was a child I can swim well.
- 9) You should had called us when you were in our city.