

Test MODULE 9

Modal verbs

Choose the best answer, A, B or C.

- 1 I'd like to sing well.
A can B have ability to **C be able to** ▶ Unit 46
- 2 We ran out of milk last night but I buy some at the corner shop.
A could **B was able to** C can't ▶ Unit 46
- 3 The buses get very crowded before they built the new Underground.
A could B can C were able to ▶ Unit 46
- 4 It took us a long time, but eventually we managed a refund.
A to get B get C getting ▶ Unit 46
- 5 This be your book. It's got your name on it.
A can B **must** C perhaps ▶ Unit 47
- 6 It's quite a popular course. There be any places left on it.
A might not B **must not** C could not ▶ Unit 47
- 7 The heating's been on all day so there plenty of hot water for your bath.
A could be B **should be** C can't be ▶ Unit 47
- 8 Everything's soaking wet. It have rained very heavily last night.
A should B could C **must** ▶ Unit 48
- 9 I to football practice yesterday but I had a bit of a stomachache.
A can't go B **should have gone** C couldn't have gone ▶ Unit 48
- 10 It's eight o'clock. We leave now.
A 've got to B are have to C 've got ▶ Unit 49
- 11 When we arrived at the gate, we show our passports.
A must B had got to C **had to** ▶ Unit 49
- 12 You take any of the confidential files home. It's against company rules.
A don't have to B haven't got to C **mustn't** ▶ Unit 49
- 13 I'm really putting on weight. I some exercise.
A need doing B have need do C **need to do** ▶ Unit 50
- 14 I my car so I left it at home and came on the bus.
A needn't have brought B **didn't need to bring** C haven't needed to bring ▶ Unit 50
- 15 That cut looks bad. We phone for an ambulance.
A 'd better B must better C should have ▶ Unit 51
- 16 I'm really sorry. I said all those terrible things about you.
A shouldn't B **shouldn't have** C mustn't have ▶ Unit 51
- 17 'Excuse me. May I take a photograph?' 'No, I'm afraid you'
A mightn't B couldn't C **can't** ▶ Unit 52
- 18 Our teacher was sick, so we leave school early yesterday.
A were allowed to B could C might ▶ Unit 52
- 19 One more thing, madam. you confirm your date of birth?
A **Would** B May I C Shall ▶ Unit 53
- 20 'I'm starving!' 'OK. I you something from the fridge.'
A 'm getting B **'ll get** C get ▶ Unit 53

MODALS, PAST TENSE; some modals don't have the past tense. You can still use them in the past (see structure below) but the meaning is slightly different (regret, assumption, guess in the past)

could
should
must
might



+ HAVE+Past Participle

She should have done
He must have been
She could have listened

Could Have Should Have Would Have Exercise 1

1. I could have bought (buy) bread but I didn't know we needed it.
(past possibility)
2. We shouldn't have invited (invite) so many people to our party! I'm worried that we won't have enough room for everyone. (past negative advice / regret)
3. I should have (start) saving money years ago! (past advice / regret)
4. We would have joined (join) you at the restaurant, but we couldn't get a babysitter. (past willingness)
5. The weather couldn't have been (be) any worse! (past negative possibility)
6. I couldn't have arrived (arrive) on time, even if I'd left earlier. There were dreadful traffic jams all the way. (past negative possibility)
7. They could have won (win) the football match, but John hurt his ankle. (past possibility)
8. Amanda would have finished (finish) the work, but she felt ill and had to go home. (past willingness)
9. Lucy should have left (left) earlier. She missed her flight. (past advice / regret)
10. We couldn't have finished (finish) the game, even if we'd wanted to. It was raining very hard and we had to stop. (past negative possibility)
11. I shouldn't have eaten (eat) so much chocolate! I feel sick! (past negative advice / regret)
12. Luke could have studied (pass) the exam if he'd studied a bit more. (past possibility)

This is ALSO a conditional sentence ,
3rd type

Language Focus Modals of Probability (also called 'Modals of Speculation')
for talking about the past

Level Intermediate

ANSWER KEY

My Notes



1. I saw my friend run quickly to school.
She must have been late.
2. All the chocolates are gone!
Tommy might have eaten them.
3. I think Steven drove to work today.
No, he can't have driven!
4. The police shot a man in the bank.
He must have been a robber.
5. Where did Rob and Kim go on holiday?
They could have flown to Poland.
6. Who broke the coffee cup yesterday?
Sarah may have dropped it.

NOTE: We use 'been' with ...

- 1) **Nouns** Example: "It *must have been* a spider."
- 2) **Verbs + 'ing'** Example: "She *might have been* sleeping."
- 3) **Adjectives** Example: "He *could have been* bored."
- 4) **Prepositions** Example: "It *can't have been* in the kitchen."

Here are some examples of modals of probability WITHOUT 'been' ...

- "She *must have* studied in the morning."
- "They *can't have* slept well last night."
- "He *might have* bought a new car."

Notice that each modal + have is followed by a past participle verb.