

TD04: Model Verbs: Speculation & Expectation In The Past

Exercise 1 Write one word (or a contraction) in each gap. Do not use the same word more than once. Should- will—could/might- can't-must- might/could- be- won't-may-couldn't.

- 1 A: Is that Ayrton Senna, the racing driver, in the car over there?
B: It (1) be. He died in 1994. It (2) be his nephew, Bruno. He's driving racing cars now.
- 2 A: Excuse me. Is that the train to York?
B: It (3) be, I'll check. Yes, it says 'York' on the window!
A: How stupid! I didn't notice that. Do you know what time it leaves?
B: It (4) be leaving any minute now.
- 3 A: Have you seen my car keys?
B: No. (5) they still be in the car?
A: I haven't used the car today, but I need to now. I'm going into town.
B: You're kidding! On a Saturday afternoon? The town centre (6) be heaving with people!
- 4 A: Is that the phone? At this time of night? Who is it?
B: It could (7) Steve in Australia. It's the middle of the day there. Hello, Steve?
- 5 A: I'm phoning from CTC News. Would it be possible to interview the ambassador this afternoon?
B: I'm afraid the ambassador (8) be available at such short notice, but I'll ask his secretary.
- 6 A: Can you record the football match for me? I'm not sure when my meeting's going to end and I (9) not be home in time.
B: Of course. Do you know when you'll be back?
A: Not really. But I (10) be back later than nine.

Exercise 2

Write four statements making deductions about each picture. Use the words and phrases in brackets, as in the example.

Mr and Mrs Hopkins are waiting for their daughter.

- 0 (on/train) She can't *have been on the train*.....
1 (miss/it) She must
2 (baby/mother) She
3 (phone/parents)
4 (rain) It must
5 (fall/bike) The man must
6 (not/wife) The woman
7 (ambulance) Someone
8 (explosion) There
9 (earthquake) There
10 (terrifying) It



Exercise 3 Read the article, then choose the best option to complete the comments below, as in the example. If two options are equally possible, choose both.

SPORTING DISASTERS

Heysel Stadium

ONE OF THE WORST disasters in the history of football took place in May 1985 at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels. It was the European Cup Final between Liverpool, UK and Juventus, Italy, and in many ways it was a disaster waiting to happen: the stadium was over fifty years old and in quite bad condition; some parts of it were said to be 'crumbling'. The Liverpool manager had wanted the Cup Final to be moved to another stadium. In addition, there was a history of violence between Liverpool and Italian teams, though not Juventus. The stadium was crowded,

and although the Liverpool and Juventus fans were seated in different parts of the stadium, the 'neutral' section, where tickets were allocated to Belgian supporters, actually contained a lot of Juventus fans.

As the match was about to start, Liverpool fans charged the 'neutral' section, causing a large number of mainly Juventus supporters to flee to the back of the stand, against a wall. The wall collapsed, killing 39 fans and injuring hundreds more. Despite the awful disaster, the match went ahead after the captains appealed for calm, and Juventus won 1-0.

As a result of the disaster, twenty-seven fans were arrested, most of whom were from Liverpool, and fourteen were given three-year suspended sentences for involuntary manslaughter. English football clubs were banned from playing in Europe for five years, and Liverpool was banned for six. Measures were taken to stop football hooliganism in England and make football a safer game to watch; these measures were successful and football is now a spectator sport for families again. No more football matches took place at Heysel Stadium, although it continued to host athletics events, and it was demolished in 1994.

- 0) The owners of the stadium its maintenance.
A should have neglected B must have neglected C had to neglect
- 1) The wall at the back of the stand have been strong enough.
A can't B couldn't C shouldn't
- 2) The organisers that there would be only Belgian fans in the neutral section.
A might think B could think C might have thought
- 3) The Juventus fans terrified.
A must have been B could be C might well have been
- 4) The football teams very brave to continue with the match.
A should have been B must have been C should be
- 5) Some of the fans who were arrested from Liverpool.
A couldn't have been B didn't have to be C can't have been
- 6) Liverpool Football Club out of European competition for a long time.
A had to stay B must have stayed C should have stayed
- 7) Football matches in England a lot more pleasant now.
A can be B must be C should have been
- 8) They have expected trouble at athletics meetings.
A mustn't B shouldn't C can't

Exercise 4 (Oral interactive dialogue)

Discuss and answer the questions about your classmates using past and present modal verbs of deduction (i.e. *must, could, might, may, and can't*). Base your answers on what you know about the other students in the class.

Questions	Name
1. You hear a student telling a joke. Who is it?	
2. You hear someone singing outside the classroom door. Who is it?	
3. You see a classmate sharing a snack. Who is it?	
4. You see a classmate helping another student with their work. Who is it?	
5. A student arrives to class first. Who is it?	
6. You see a classmate taking a selfie. Who is it?	
7. There is a student talking with their friend. Who is it?	
8. You see a classmate carrying a football. Who is it?	
9. There is a student listening to music. Who is it?	
10. You see a classmate playing a game on their phone. Who is it?	
11. There is a classmate doing a crossword. Who is it?	
12. You see a student putting up their hand to answer a question. Who is it?	
13. You see a beautiful drawing on a student's desk. Who drew it?	
14. You see a classmate carrying a fashionable bag. Who is it?	