

MODAL PERFECTS

Use: we use modal perfects to speculate about and make deductions about past actions.

Form: [modal (gives meaning) + have + past participle (of the main verb)]

Meanings:

- a) To express certainty in the past:
 - (+) **must have p. p.**
 - (-) **can't have p. p.**
- b) To express a possibility in the past:
 - might have p.p.**
 - may have p.p.**
 - could have p.p.**
- c) To suggest an alternative past action:
 - could have p.p.**
- d) When we regret not doing something:
 - should have p.p.**
- e) When we think the person did the wrong thing:
 - shouldn't have p.p.**