Beginner
The Use of Must and Can't

RULES AND EXAMPLES

1. You can use **must** to say that you believe something is certain:

Examples:
1. You've been traveling all day. You **must** be tired. (Traveling is tiring and you've been traveling all day, so you **must** be tired.)
2. 'Jim is a hard worker.' 'Jim? You **must be joking**. He doesn't do anything.
3. Carol **must get** very bored in her job. She does the same thing every day.
4. I'm sure Sally gave me her phone number. I **must have** it somewhere.

You can use **can't** to say that you believe something is not possible.

Examples:
1. You've just had lunch. You **can't be** hungry already. (People are not normally hungry after eating a meal. You've just eaten, so you **can't** be hungry.)
2. They haven't lived here for very long. They **can't know** many people.

Study the structure:

		be (tired / hungry / at work etc.)
I /you/he (etc.)	**must**	**be** (do**ing** / go**ing** / jok**ing** etc.)
	can't	**do** / **get** / **know** / **have** etc.

2. For the past we use **must have (done)** and **can't have (done)**.

Examples:
1. I didn't hear the phone. I **must have been** asleep.
2. 'I've lost one of my gloves.'   'You **must have dropped** it somewhere.
3. Sue hasn't contacted me. She **can't have got** my message.
4. Tom walked into a wall. He **can't have been** looking where he was going.
5. There's nobody at home. They **must have gone** out.

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Study the structure:

	must	**been** (asleep / at work etc.)
I /you/he (etc.)	have	**been** (do**ing** / look**ing** etc.)
	can't	**gone** / **got** / **known** etc.

You can use **couldn't have** instead of **can't have**:

Examples:
1. Sue **couldn't have got** my message.
2. Tom **couldn't have been looking** where he was going.

EXERCISES
 Put in must or can't

Example: You've been traveling all day. You _____ be tired.
Answer : You've been traveling all day. You must be tired.

Start here:

1. That restaurant _____ be very good. It's always full of people.
2. That restaurant _____ be very good. It's always empty.
3. I'm sure I gave you the key. You _____ have it. Have you looked in your bag?
4. You're going on holiday next week. You _____ be looking forward to it.
5. It rained every day during their holiday, so they _____ have had a very nice time.
6. Congratulations on passing your exam. You _____ be very pleased.
7. You got here very quickly. You _____ have walked very fast.
8. Bill and Sue always travel business class, so they _____ be short of money.