

Must (You must be tired, etc.)

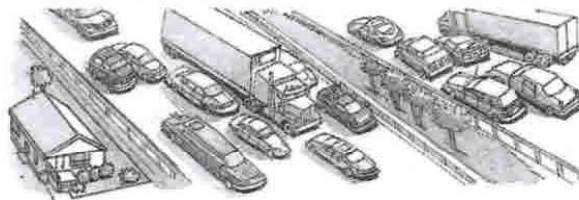
A

Must (not)

My house is next to the freeway.



It must be very noisy.



We use **must** to say that we feel sure something is true:

- You've been traveling all day. You **must** be tired. (Traveling is tiring and you've been traveling all day, so you are probably tired.)
- "Jim is a hard worker." "Jim? A hard worker? You **must** be joking. He's very lazy."
- Debbie **must** get very bored with her job. She does the same thing every day.

We use **must not** to say that we feel sure something is not true:

- Their car isn't outside their house. They **must not** be home. (= They must be out.)
- Brian said he would definitely be here before 9:30. It's 10:00 now, and he's never late. He **must not** be coming.
- They haven't lived here very long. They **must not** know many people.

Study the structure:

I/you/he (etc.) **must (not)**

be (tired/hungry/home, etc.)
be (doing/coming/joking, etc.)
do/get/know/have, etc.

B

Must (not) have done

For the past, we use **must (not) have done**:

- "We used to live close to the freeway." "Did you? It **must have been** noisy."
- There's nobody at home. They **must have gone** out.
- I've lost one of my gloves. I **must have dropped** it somewhere.
- She walked past me without speaking. She **must not have seen** me.
- Tom walked straight into a wall. He **must not have been looking** where he was going.

Study the structure:

I/you/he (etc.) **must (not) have**

been (tired/hungry/noisy, etc.)
been (doing/coming/looking, etc.)
done/gone/known/had, etc.

C

Can't and must not

It **can't** be true = I believe it is impossible:

- How can you say such a thing? You **can't** be serious!

Compare **can't** and **must not**:

- A: Joe wants something to eat.
B: But he just had lunch. He **can't** be hungry already. (= it's impossible that he is hungry because he just had lunch)
- A: I offered Bill something to eat, but he didn't want anything.
B: He **must not** be hungry. (= I'm sure he is not hungry – otherwise he would eat something)

Exercises

27.1 Put in *must* or *must not*.

1. You've been traveling all day. You *must* be very tired.
2. That restaurant _____ be very good. It's always full of people.
3. That restaurant _____ be very good. It's always empty.
4. You _____ be looking forward to going on vacation next week.
5. It rained every day during their vacation, so they _____ have had a very good time.
6. You got here very quickly. You _____ have walked very fast.

27.2 Complete the sentences with a verb in the correct form.

1. I've lost one of my gloves. I must *have dropped* it somewhere.
2. They haven't lived here very long. They must not *know* many people.
3. Ted isn't at work today. He must _____ sick.
4. Ted wasn't at work last week. He must _____ sick.
5. Sarah knows a lot about movies. She must _____ to the movies a lot.
6. Look – James is putting on his coat. He must _____ out.
7. I left my bike outside last night, and this morning it isn't there anymore. Somebody must _____ it.
8. Megan was in a very difficult situation. It must not _____ easy for her.
9. There is a man walking behind us. He has been walking behind us for the last 20 minutes. He must _____ us.

27.3 Read the situations and use the words in parentheses to write sentences with *must have* and *must not have*.

1. The phone rang but I didn't hear it. (I / asleep) *I must have been asleep.*
2. Julie walked past me without speaking. (she / see / me) *She must not have seen me.*
3. The jacket you bought is very good quality. (it / very expensive)
4. I can't find my umbrella. (I / leave / it in the restaurant last night)
5. Dave passed the exam without studying for it. (the exam / very difficult)
6. She knew everything about our plans. (she / listen / to our conversation)
7. Rachel did the opposite of what I asked her to do. (she / understand / what I said)
8. When I woke up this morning, the light was on. (I / forget / to turn it off)
9. The light was red, but the car didn't stop. (the driver / see / the red light)

27.4 Complete the sentences with *must not* or *can't*.

1. How can you say such a thing? You *can't* be serious.
2. Their car isn't outside their house. They *must not* be home.
3. I just bought a box of cereal yesterday. It _____ be empty already.
4. The Smiths always go on vacation this time of year, but they are still home. They _____ be taking a vacation this year.
5. You just started filling out your tax forms 10 minutes ago. You _____ be finished with them already!
6. Eric is a good friend of Ann's, but he hasn't visited her in the hospital. He _____ know she's in the hospital.