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That's a possibility.

1 SNAPSHOT



Pet Peeves

Common mysteries among friends and acquaintances

Why is it that some people . . . ?

- are always late
- never return phone calls
- never listen carefully when you talk to them
- act differently in front of people they want to impress
- always look messy
- never remember to return things
- are always short of money
- never know when to go home

Source: Interviews with people between the ages of 16 and 45

Talk about these questions.

• Do you know people who do these things?

Are you ever guilty of doing these things? When and why?

What other "pet peeves" do you have about friends and acquaintances?

2 CONVERSATION

A Listen and practice.

Jackie: You asked Beth to be here around seven o'clock, didn't you?

Bill: Yes. What time is it now?

Jackie: It's nearly a quarter to eight. I wonder what happened.

Bill: Hmm. She might have forgotten the time. Why don't I call and see if she's on her way?

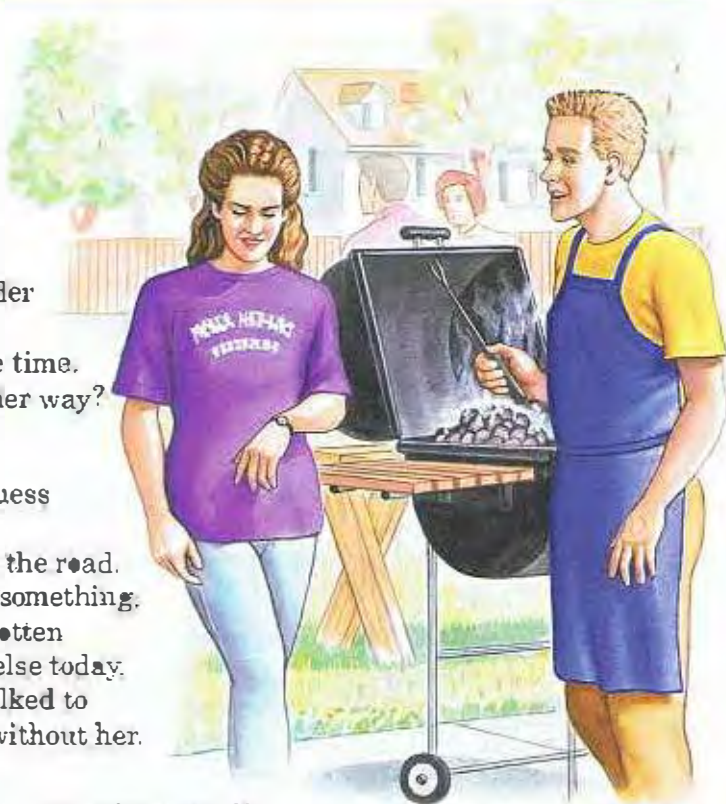
A few minutes later

Bill: I got her answering machine, so I guess she must have left already.

Jackie: I hope she didn't have a problem on the road. Her car could have broken down or something.

Bill: Of course she may have simply forgotten our invitation and done something else today.

Jackie: No, she couldn't have forgotten. I talked to her only yesterday. Let's just start without her.




CLASS AUDIO ONLY

B Listen to the rest of the conversation. What happened?

3 PRONUNCIATION *Reduced forms in past modals*

A  Listen and practice. Notice how **have** is reduced in these sentences.

He may have *for*gotten the appointment. She must have had a problem on the road.

B  Listen and practice. In sentences like these, **not** is usually not reduced.

He may not have remembered. She must **not** have caught her bus.

4 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Past modals for degrees of certainty

Probability: She must have left already.

She must not have wanted to come.

She couldn't have forgotten the party.

Possibility: She may have forgotten our invitation.

She may not have wanted to come.

She might have forgotten the time.

She might not have remembered the time.

Her car could have broken down.

A Read each situation and choose the best explanation. Then practice the situations and explanations with a partner. (Pay attention to the reduced forms in past modals.)

Situation

- Jane wasn't in a very good mood today.
- Brian got a call and looked very worried.
- The teacher looked very pleased today.
- Jack couldn't keep his eyes open.
- Jeff was fired from his job.
- David seems to be broke.

Explanation

- She could have gotten a raise.
- He must not have slept enough.
- He may have been to the casino again.
- He couldn't have heard good news.
- She may have fought with her boyfriend.
- He might not have done his work.


B *Pair work* Suggest different explanations for each situation in part A.

5 LISTENING *Jumping to conclusions*

A *Group work* What do you think happened? Offer an explanation for each event.



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B  Listen to the explanations for the two events in part A and take notes. What *did* happen? How similar were your explanations?

6 WHAT'S YOUR EXPLANATION?

A Pair work What do you think were the reasons for these events? Suggest two different explanations for each.

1. Two people were having dinner in a restaurant. One suddenly got up and rushed out of the restaurant.
2. A woman living alone returned home and found the TV and radio turned on. They had not been left on when she went out.
3. Two friends met again after not seeing each other for many years. One looked at the other and burst into laughter.

B Class activity Share your explanations. Which ones are the best?

C Group work Each student thinks of two situations like the ones in part A. Then take turns reading your ideas to the group. Others suggest explanations.

A: OK. Here's one. A man was found in a field in his pajamas late at night. He was carrying a broken leash in his hand.

B: I have an explanation. Maybe the man was sleepwalking, and he might have taken his dog out for a walk.

C: Yes. And then the dog might have seen a rabbit, run after it, and broken his leash. That probably woke the man up.



interchange 13

Photo plays

What's your best explanation for some unusual events?

Turn to page IC-18.

7 CONVERSATION

A  Listen and practice.

Brent: How was your dinner party?

Adam: I think it went pretty well. People really seemed to enjoy themselves.

Brent: That's good.

Adam: Yeah, but we shouldn't have invited my wife's boss again. We can never get him to leave!

Brent: Really? How late did he stay this time?

Adam: Until two o'clock in the morning! And we both had to get up early the next day.

Brent: Oh, he shouldn't have stayed so late. That was really inconsiderate. You should have asked him to leave earlier.

Adam: Well, it's pretty difficult to do that to your wife's boss!



B Class activity What would you have done in this situation?

8 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Past modals for opinions and advice

He **should have left** earlier.

I **would have asked** him to leave.

He **could have been** more considerate.

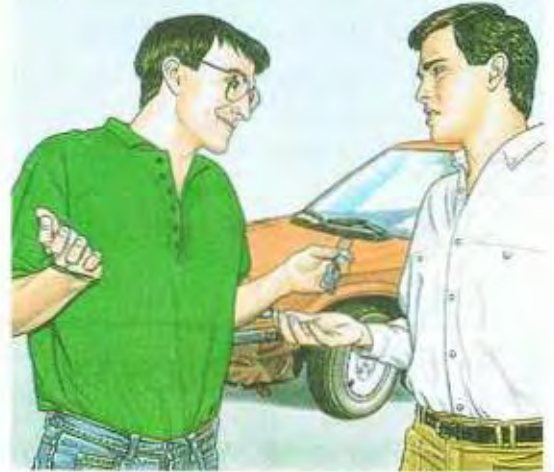
He **shouldn't have stayed** so late.

I **wouldn't have stayed** so late.

You **could have reminded** him of the time.

Read these situations. Think of suggestions or comments using past modals. Then compare with a partner.

- John's friend borrowed his car and dented it. When he returned it, he didn't say anything to John about it. What would you have done if you were John? What should his friend have done?
- Jill and Alex gave a party for some close friends. Two of the people they invited never showed up and never called to explain. Jill and Alex never invited them over again. What else could they have done?
- Rob and Kate had planned to get married. At a party, their friends gave them a lot of gifts. Later, Rob and Kate broke off their engagement; however, they kept the gifts. Do you think they should have kept them? What would you have advised them to do?



1. I would have asked him to pay the repair bill.

9 WORD POWER *Points of view*

A Match each point of view with an example. (More than one answer may be possible.) Then compare with a partner.

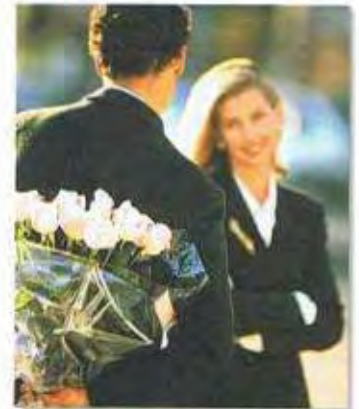
Chris forgot his girlfriend's birthday.

Point of view

- an assumption
- a conclusion
- a criticism
- an excuse
- a prediction
- a reason
- a suggestion
- a warning

Example

- He was fired from his job that day.
- He must feel really sorry!
- He can be very inconsiderate.
- He had something else on his mind.
- He ought to buy her roses.
- He'll probably forget their anniversary, too!
- If he does it again, he'll need to find a new girlfriend.
- He must have wanted to break up with her.



B Group work Choose one of the situations from Exercise 8. Give an example of each point of view in the list above (an assumption, a conclusion, etc.) for that situation.

10 LISTENING



A Listen to descriptions of three situations. What would have been the best thing to do in each situation? Check (✓) the best suggestion.

- Dennis should have called a locksmith.
 He should have called a tow truck.
 He did the right thing.
- Diana should have turned up her radio to keep out the noise.
 She should have called the neighbors to see what was happening.
 She did the right thing.
- Simon should have taken the ring and put an ad in the newspaper.
 He should have taken the ring and called the police when he got home.
 He did the right thing.

B Pair work What would you have done in each situation in part A?

11 PREDICAMENTS

A Pair work Work together to think of three interesting predicaments.

"We were at a friend's house for dinner last night. Our friend had worked all day to cook a special meal for us, but the food was really awful! We didn't want to say anything that might hurt her feelings, though."

B Group work Pairs take turns stating their predicaments. First, others say what the pair could, should, or might have done. Then others say what *they* would have done.

- A: You could have told her you weren't feeling well, but that you'd take some food home for later.
 B: Or you could have eaten it really slowly so that she wouldn't offer you any more.
 C: I would have told her the food looked great, but that I was on a diet.



12 WRITING

A Choose one of the situations you talked about in Exercise 11. Write two paragraphs about it. In the first, describe the situation. In the second, say what should or could have been done.

B Pair work Exchange compositions. Does the first paragraph describe the situation and the second offer suggestions? What do you think of the suggestions? Do you have others to offer?



13 READING

The Blue Lights of Silver Cliff

Do you believe in ghosts?

Today, the town of Silver Cliff, Colorado, has a population of only 100 people. Once, however, it was a prosperous mining town where thousands came with dreams of finding silver and making their fortune.

Late one night in 1880, a group of miners were headed back to their camp after a good time in town. They were still laughing and joking as they approached the graveyard on a hill outside Silver Cliff. Then one of the men screamed and pointed toward the graveyard. The others looked and fell suddenly silent. On top of each grave, they saw flame-like blue lights. These eerie lights seemed to be dancing on the graves, disappearing and then appearing again.

This was the first sighting of the blue lights of Silver Cliff. There have been many other sightings over the years. In 1969, Edward Lineham from *National Geographic* magazine visited the graveyard. Lineham's article tells of his experience: "I saw them. . . . Dim, round spots of blue-white light glowed ethereally among the graves. I . . . stepped forward for a better look. They vanished. I aimed my flashlight at one eerie glow and switched it on. It revealed only a tombstone."



Lineham and others have suggested various explanations for the blue lights of Silver Cliff: The lights might have been reflections of lights from the town, but Silver Cliff's lights seemed too dim to have this effect. The lights could have been caused by radioactive ore, but there's no evidence of radioactivity. They could have been caused by the burning of gases from rotting matter, but this usually happens in swamps, and the area around Silver Cliff is dry. Or, perhaps, the lights are lights on the helmets of dead miners wandering the hills in search of the fortune they had come for.

A Read the article. Then answer these questions.

1. How has Silver Cliff changed over the years?
2. When, where, and by whom were the blue lights first seen?
3. What do the blue lights look like?
4. What are some of the explanations that people have proposed?

B Group work Talk about these questions.

1. Which of the explanations for the blue lights do you think is the most satisfactory? Why?
2. Can you think of any other explanations for the blue lights?
3. Do you know of any other unexplainable things or events?