

1 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.

- The escaped prisoners must have (had) / *having* help from one of the guards.
- It *can* / *can't* have taken you six months to read that book. It's only 60 pages!
- Without Sgt Reece's determination the murder might *have* / *has* gone unsolved.
- I didn't recognise Fran. She *must* / *mustn't* have dyed her hair.
- They lived on Dover Street, but they *can't* / *might* have moved since then.
- The burglar *can't have* / *had* realised that his phone was recording his crime.
- Everyone agreed he was guilty so the evidence *might* / *must* have been clear.
- It may have been deliberate or it *must* / *could* have been an accident.

2 Match 1–7 to A–G.

- | | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| 1 My bike has disappeared. | | <i>D</i> |
| 2 Our air conditioner was broken all summer. | | |
| 3 My bag was 12 kilos overweight on the return flight. | | |
| 4 That parcel hasn't arrived yet. | | |
| 5 Grace is never usually late for work. | | |
| 6 Do you think I should change my password? | | |
| 7 They should be here by now. | | |
- A She must have overslept.
 B It may have got delivered to the wrong address.
 C You must have bought lots of souvenirs!
 D Someone must have stolen it.
 E Probably. You might have been hacked.
 F That can't have been very comfortable for you.
 G Yes, they should. But they could have got lost.

3 Read each situation. Then complete the deduction with *must have*, *might have* or *can't have*. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.

- An elephant was walking down Oxford Street in London.
They *might have* been making a film.
- A man who robbed a bank in New York was seen in Paris 40 mins later.
It been his twin.
- Someone in Texas won the lottery three times in five years.
He cheated.
- A plate fell off the top of a tall building but it didn't smash.
It been a real plate.

- A man in Scotland ate no food for 382 days.
He lost a lot of weight.
- A woman paid 1 million euros for a potato.
She needed the money.

4 Rewrite the sentences using the modal verbs in brackets.

- It's possible that someone stole Lauren's headphones.
Someone *might have stolen* Lauren's headphones. (might)
- It's impossible that William has broken his leg again.
William his leg again. (can't)
- Maybe someone took photos of the attacker.
Someone photos of the attacker. (could)
- I'm sure that the investigation took a long time.
The investigation a long time. (must)
- Perhaps someone gave the police new evidence.
Someone the police new evidence. (may)
- It's not possible that the burglars got in through that tiny window.
The burglars through that tiny window. (can't)

5 Complete the news story using *must/can't* + infinitive or *must/might/can't* + *have* + past participle. Use the verbs in brackets.

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It ¹ *must be* (be) one of the strangest crimes of the century. At some point between Thursday night and Friday morning two farm horses in north Florida were painted bright pink. Police are still trying to work out what happened. The suspects ² (enter) the farm on foot as no one heard any noise. Farmer Jay Hughes thinks the act ³ (be committed) by an angry ex-employee. Others believe that it ⁴ (be carried out) by kids, playing a joke. 'At the moment we ⁵ (be) sure of anything,' said Sheriff Lucy Wyndham, 'except that it ⁶ (be) an accident. We're talking to local shops where the suspects ⁷ (buy) the paint.' The mystery continues.

1

- 2 can't
- 3 have
- 4 must
- 5 might
- 6 have
- 7 must
- 8 could

2

- 2 F
- 3 C
- 4 B
- 5 A
- 6 E
- 7 G

3

- 2 must/might have
- 3 must have
- 4 can't have
- 5 must have
- 6 can't have

4

- 2 can't have broken
- 3 could have taken
- 4 must have taken
- 5 may have given
- 6 can't have got in

5

- 2 must have entered
- 3 might have been committed
- 4 might have been carried out
- 5 can't be
- 6 can't have been
- 7 might have bought