



# English for International Communication (1500202)

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# Course Outline



Unit 1: Time for a new look!

Unit 2: My life would be great!

Unit 3: What would you have done?

Unit 4: Anything's possible.

Unit 5: What would have happened?

Unit 6: Did you hear the news?





# Unit 4 Outline



## Unit 4 : Part I

Vocabulary: Mysteries and  
hoaxes

Grammar: *May, might, could,*  
and *must have*

Reading technique: Speed  
reading

## Unit 4 : Part II

Writing: Write an email to the  
news site

Speaking: Speculates about  
mysteries and the past

Pronunciation: Reduction of  
*have* after modals



# Vocabulary: Mysteries and hoaxes



- a. fact-checker
- b. mystery
- c. hoax
- d. conspiracy theory
- e. prediction
- f. doctored photo

Home | News | Sports | Weather | Video

**TIME FOR TRUTH** *We investigate the news so you don't have to!* 2 hours ago

- 1** What will the world look like in 2050?
- 2** New video of Loch Ness Monster goes viral!
- 3** These people believe scientists control the weather. Are they right?
- 4** Scientists discover a way to reverse aging.
- 5** New clues in the disappearance of Amelia Earhart...
- 6** Get Real: The show that separates truth from fiction in today's top stories.

(Wilson, 2022)



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- 3 d** These people believe scientists control the weather. Are they right?
- 4 c** Scientists discover a way to reverse aging.
- 5 b** New clues in the disappearance of Amelia Earhart...
- 6 a** Get Real: The show that separates truth from fiction in today's top stories.

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# Grammar: *may, might, could, and must have*

We use *may, might, could, and must + have + past participle* to talk about degrees of certainty in the past.

Degrees of certainty	
<b>must have</b>	almost 100% sure it was true
<b>may (not) have</b>	
<b>might (not) have</b>	not sure if it was true
<b>could have</b>	
<b>must not have</b>	
<b>couldn't have</b>	almost 100% sure it was not true

We use *must have + past participle* when we are almost certain that something was true in the past.

- *The street was wet when I got up. It must have rained last night. (= I'm almost certain it rained.)*



(Wilson, 2022)





## Grammar: *may, might, could, and must have*



We use *must not have* and *couldn't have* + past participle when we are almost certain that something was not true in the past.

- *He doesn't have a passport. He couldn't have left the country.* (= I'm almost certain he didn't leave the country.)
- *The food is still on the table. They must not have eaten.* (= I'm almost certain they didn't eat.)



(Wilson, 2022)





# Grammar: *may, might, could, and must have*

We use *may have, may not have, might have, might not have, and could have* + past participle when we are not sure what happened. We are just guessing.

- *I can't find my book. I **may have left** it at work.*
- *I heard a strange noise last night. It **might have been** the wind.*
- *Dora didn't go to the party. She **might not have gotten** an invitation.*
- *She saw a light in the distance. It **could have been** a fire.*



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(Wilson, 2022)







# Reading technique: Speed Reading



## What is speed reading?

Iris Reading (2022) stated speed reading is a technique that helps you read faster without compromising comprehension or retention.

Speed reading is very different from skimming and scanning. In skimming, you speed through the text to get an idea of what it is, and in scanning, you speed through the text just to find something important.

However, in speed reading, you're not simply running your eyes through texts. Rather, you're reading every word, but fast. Importantly, you're comprehending the text as you speed through.





## Reading technique: Speed Reading



There are various steps that you can take to master speed reading. These include:

- **Guide your eyes.** Run a finger or a pen under the words you are reading. Our eyes tend to fixate on moving objects. So, if you run a finger or a pen under the words in a text, your eyes will follow. Do this faster than you'll normally read, which trains your eyes to move faster and to read faster.





## Reading technique: Speed Reading



- **Deadline strategy.** Measure how much time it takes you to read a page, then try to beat it. Always remember that whatever can be measured can be managed. Simply set a time of 1 – 5 minutes and see how many lines you can read in the set time. Then, set the same time again and try to beat it by reading more lines.
- **Adjust reading speed.** When speed reading, slow down on the first sentence in a paragraph and increase your speed as you go.

This is very important to comprehension and retention when speed reading. You'll easily grasp the introductory sentences and follow other sentences more readily as you speed up.





# Writing: Write an email to the news site

- 1 Read the news article. Then imagine you were one of the witnesses and write an email to the news site. Include the following information:
  - where you were, what you were doing, and who you were with
  - what you saw and how you felt
  - what you think the lights might have been

## STRANGE LIGHTS IN THE NIGHT SKY

Last week, Louise Tucker was taking her dog for a late-night walk when she noticed a set of strange lights in the sky. “They were very bright lights,” she said. “At first I thought they were bolts of lightning from a distant storm, but then I realized they were moving very fast.” Scared, Tucker hurried home to get her camera and her husband. The two rushed out and managed to take a video before the lights disappeared.



The Tuckers thought they might have seen a group of planes, but after they spoke to their neighbors, who also saw the lights, the Tuckers took the video to the police. Chief of police Mark O’Reilly said that they are looking into the incident, but claimed that they have no idea what the lights were.

If you think you might have seen anything, please send in your story.

(Wilson, 2022)







## Pronunciation: Reduction of *have* after modals



Listen. Notice the reduced sound of the helping verb *have* after modals.

### Unreduced

1. It /kʊdəv/ been an alien.
2. They /maɪtəv/ used boats.
3. It /məstəv/ been a scam.
4. They /meɪyve/ been here.

### Reduced

1. It /kʊdə/ been an alien.
2. They /maɪtə/ used boats.
3. It /məstə/ been a scam.
4. They /meɪyə/ been here.



(Wilson, 2022)





## Speaking: Speculates about mysteries and the past



**GROUP WORK** Discuss the photos and the headlines. What might people have seen? Think of real and unreal explanations.



1. Guest Sees Ghost in Hotel Room



3. Hikers Photograph Hairy Monster

(Wilson, 2022)

Picture number 1 could be a photo of a real ghost. It looks so real!

It could be a doctored photo.





# References



Iris Reading. (2022). *What are the Reading Techniques*. Retrieved November 20, 2022, from <https://irisreading.com/what-are-the-reading-techniques/>

Wilson, K. (2022). *Smart Choice 3*. England: Oxford University Press.

