

# GRAMMAR

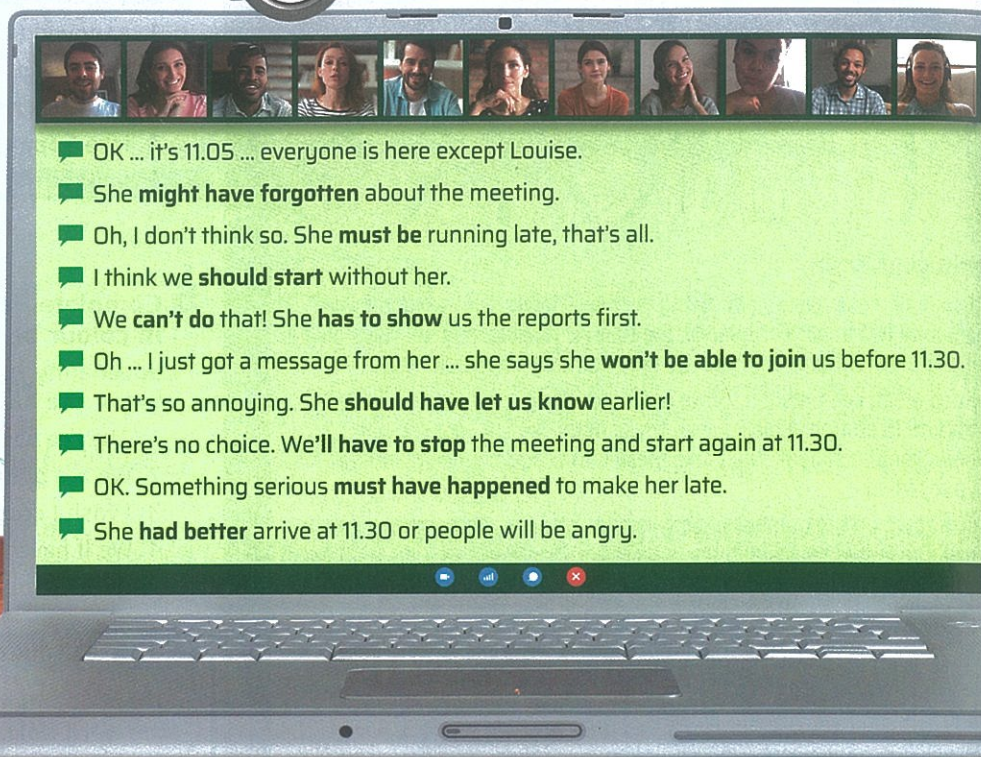
## MODALS AND MODAL PERFECTS: HAD BETTER



Read what people are saying at a Zoom meeting and answer the questions.

Which phrases in bold ... ?

- 1 give a warning
- 2 contain modals
- 3 contain modal perfects
- 4 refer to the past



Grammar Basics Rules and Basic Practice, page 103

**1** Complete the mini-dialogues with the modals below.  
will have to | ought to | might | shouldn't | can't  
don't have to | will be able to | must

- 1 A: We've got plenty of time. You ... hurry.  
B: But I'm afraid we ... miss the train.
- 2 A: Help! I ... do ten things at once!  
B: You ... try to do so much in one day.
- 3 A: We ... move our clocks forward next week.  
B: Great! Then we ... enjoy another hour of daylight.
- 4 A: She's been working hard. She ... be tired.  
B: I'm sure she is. She ... rest now.

**2** Complete the sentences using the modal perfect form of the modals below, affirmative or negative.  
could | should (x 2) | need | might | would

- 1 The traffic was slow because of rush hour.  
I ... left at 3.00 instead of at 4.00.
- 2 Andy ... gone to the beach. His car is still here.
- 3 I ... left earlier, but I couldn't find my keys.
- 4 They can't come because they have other plans.  
You ... given them such short notice.
- 5 Thanks, but you ... woken me up. I had set my alarm.
- 6 I wonder why Dana isn't here. She ... received our message.

**3** Write a logical sentence to follow each sentence below. Use a suitable modal perfect and the verbs in brackets.

- 1 I didn't hear my phone ring last night. (be / on silent)
- 2 My back hurts. (not lift / that heavy box)
- 3 I'm not sure where Ian is. (go / home)
- 4 It's too bad you didn't ask me for advice.  
(give / some suggestions)
- 5 Jack is a terrible cook. (not make / this delicious quiche)

**4** Choose the correct answer.

### Good to be Late

On the morning of 11th September 2001, 16-year-old Kim Kalish's father <sup>1</sup> **couldn't have driven / couldn't drive / can't drive** her to school because he <sup>2</sup> **had to / must / should** go to an important meeting. Kim <sup>3</sup> **can take / could have taken / must have taken** the bus, but she pretended to miss it and told her father, "Now you <sup>4</sup> **have to take / might take / should have taken** me to school!" He took her, but he was furious, saying that she <sup>5</sup> **might miss / may not have missed / shouldn't have missed** the bus. At school that day, they announced that the Twin Towers – the location of her father's meeting – had been attacked. He <sup>6</sup> **would be / may have been / would have been** there, but Kim had made him late. Kim's bad behaviour saved her father's life!

## GRAMMAR IN CONTEXT

- 5 Complete the passage with the correct form of the words in brackets. Then listen and check your answers.

# A Song about Time



Talented guitarist Brian May joined the band Queen in 1974, when he was in the middle of his doctorate in astrophysics. Leaving university to join the band <sup>1</sup> ... (must / be) a difficult choice, since he <sup>2</sup> ... (couldn't / know) that Queen would become such a successful band. May's song '39 reflects his interest in astrophysics. In the song, humans <sup>3</sup> ... (have to / find) a place to live in outer space. A group of explorers volunteers for this mission. When they return a year later, 100 years have passed on Earth, so they <sup>4</sup> ... (not be able to / reunite) with their loved ones. This is based on a true fact: time passes more slowly in a fast-travelling spaceship than it does on Earth.

The explorers in the song feel that they <sup>5</sup> ... (shouldn't / go) on their mission, but May doesn't feel that he <sup>6</sup> ... (ought / do) anything differently. However, he eventually went back to university. He finished his doctorate in 2007, over 30 years after he had started it.

- 6 Complete the sentences. Use *had better* or *should*, affirmative or negative, and the verbs below.

try | wait | hurry | finish | make

- Our project is due in two weeks. We ... it on time.
- Everything depends on us. We ... any mistakes.
- You're late again. In my opinion, you ... to keep to a schedule.
- I don't think we ... for Janet because we might miss our bus.
- The doctor won't see you if you're late. You ... !

- 7 Complete the sentences using the words given. Do not change the original meaning.

- Would it be possible to borrow your watch?  
May ... ?
- It could be that she forgot your birthday.  
She might ... .
- I don't believe that his excuse is true.  
His excuse can't ... .
- You really shouldn't be late.  
You had better ... .
- I regret not taking the time into account.  
I should ... .
- It wasn't necessary for you to bring us a present.  
You needn't ... .
- I'm sure you were upset when she didn't reply.  
You must ... .

## GRAMMAR IN USE

- 8 Speculate about the picture. Use the ideas below to help you or think of your own ideas. Tell your partner:

- what the woman must have done
- what she shouldn't have done
- what she should have done
- how she must feel
- what might happen now
- what she had better do now

*She must have overslept.*



## YOUR OUTLOOK CRITICAL THINKING

Why do you think the people in the song needed to find another planet to live on? Do you think this may really happen one day?

