

Perfect Modals in English

Fill in the blank with the correct perfect modal. In most cases you will also need the past participle. In many cases you may have more than one correct answer. When you are finished you can check the answers below.

Example: I should have gotten(get) a flu shot this year. I didn't like being sick. Use the following perfect modals:

could have, may have, might have, should have, ought to have, had better have, would have, must have, have to have

1. They _____(arrive) in Texas by now. Their flight took off 6 hour ago.
2. I'm not sure, but it _____(rain) last night.
3. I _____(think) about how hard it is to get a new job before got mad and quit.
4. _____you _____(choose) a different major if you were starting college today?
5. His car isn't here. He _____(forget)we were coming to visit and decided to leave.
6. I'm not completely sure, but I _____(visit) Mesa Verde when I was a small child.
7. He _____(understood) that French movie. French is his native language.
8. She _____(turn) her paper in on time. She's about to fail the class.
9. You _____(be) more careful about what you said. You know how easily he gets angry.
10. Do you think their car _____(break down). I don't know. It _____.

Answers

1. must have arrived, have to have arrived, should have arrived, ought to have arrived
2. may have rained, might have rained, could have rained
3. should have thought, ought to have thought
4. would; have chosen
5. could have forgotten, may have forgotten, might have forgotten
6. might have visited, may have visited, could have visited
7. has to have understood, must have understood
8. had better have turned
9. ought to have been, should have been, could have been
10. could have broken down; could have, may have, might have