

PAST CRITICISM & REGRET

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Writing | 20-30 minutes

Complete questions, write detailed answers and form questions of your own.

EXAMPLE

Question: What **should** you **have checked** before leaving?

Answer: I **should have checked** the timetable. I **could have caught** an earlier bus.

Remember: Should/should not have: better past action. Could have: an unused option in this context.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Complete the questions using the grammar cues. Write full answers with a relevant detail.

1. Which recent task should you _____ earlier? (start)

Answer: _____

2. Who could you _____ for help but didn't? (ask)

Answer: _____

3. What should you _____ more carefully before a purchase? (check)

Answer: _____

4. What assumption should you not _____? (make)

Answer: _____

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

Put the words in order. Write each question. Start with a capital letter and add ?.

1. should / have / at / said / what / you / the / meeting

2. could / have / chosen / route / another / you

3. shouldn't / done / have / what / group / the

Try it: Ask your partner the questions in B. Ask one follow-up of your own.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Target forms and model answers are shown below. Personal answers will vary.

1. have started - Which recent task should you have started earlier?

Sample answer: I should have started my report earlier instead of leaving it until Sunday.

2. have asked - Who could you have asked for help but didn't?

Sample answer: I could have asked my tutor, but I thought I could solve the problem alone.

3. have checked - What should you have checked more carefully before a purchase?

Sample answer: I should have checked the size more carefully before ordering the jacket.

4. have made - What assumption should you not have made?

Sample answer: I shouldn't have assumed the shop was open on Sundays.

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

1. What should you have said at the meeting?

2. Could you have chosen another route?

3. What shouldn't the group have done?

TEACHER NOTES

These could have examples are unused options, not uncertain guesses. Encourage constructive rather than blaming answers.

Accept correct full forms and contractions. Check that answers match the question.

Encourage one relevant detail; check word order, capitals and question marks in B.