



Speculation

Worksheet

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ACTIVITY

Groupwork: speaking

AIM

To speculate about what may have happened to cause situations illustrated in pictures.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS

Past modal verbs: *may have*, *might have* and *could have* to make speculations about the past

Must have and *can't have* to talk about something that probably or certainly happened in the past

VOCABULARY

General

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of up to 24 students. Cut the pictures out as indicated.

TIME

30 minutes

PROCEDURE

- 1 Ask the students to work in groups of three and give one picture to each group.
- 2 Tell the students to write down the number of the picture on a piece of paper and then to write as many sentences as they can, speculating about the past events which led up to the situation in the picture.

For example:

Picture 1

There must have been a party.

It could have been teenagers.

They can't have known their parents were coming back.

The parents must have been away.

Encourage them to use the target language. Tell them they have got three minutes to do this.

- 3 After three minutes, ask them to give their picture to the group of students on their left and to repeat the activity with the picture they have received.
- 4 Continue like this until each group has had three minutes with each picture.
- 5 Ask the students to take it in turns to read out their group's suggestions. The class should choose the most imaginative ideas.