UNIT 07. Coulda, Woulda, Shoulda (Lesson1)

- Collocations about the past
- Guess about the past
- Discussion questions
- Review

1. Collocations about the past

(1) look back on

- When I get older I'll **look back on** this time as the best time of my life.
- I **look back on** my childhood fondly with good memories of sunshine, beaches and good food.

(2) chew over

- I shouldn't spend so much time **chewing over** my mistakes. I can't change what I've done.
- I've been **chewing** the decision **over** in my head for a while now. I'm finally ready to decide.

(3) no regrets

- I have **no regrets** about my time living abroad.
- It was a really tough decision but… no **regrets**, regardless of the consequences.

(4) guess about

- I parked my car right there and now it's gone. I can only make a **guess about** what happened to my car.
- I **guessed about** what he was saying and surprisingly I was correct.

2. Guess about the past

(1) Who stole the cookies?

Very Certain

- Must not/Could not + have + past participle
- Jack **couldn't have** eaten the cookies.
- Jack **mustn't have** eaten the cookies.

- Must + have + past participle
- Jack **must have** eaten the cookies.

Less Certain

• Must not/Could not + have + past participle
- Jack **couldn't have** eaten the cookies.
- Jack **mustn't have** eaten the cookies.

• Must + have + past participle
- Jack **must have** eaten the cookies.

*** Remember,**
'Could not + have + past participle' is very certain NOT less certain.

(2) Practice speculating

• Lisa and Bill on vacation

Q: Where in the world did they go?
A: They **must have traveled** to Asia.
A: They **might have gone** to Korea.

Q: How was the weather?
A: It **must have been** cold.
A: It **might not have been** a good time to travel.

• Jack on a date

Q: What kind of restaurant did they go to?
A: They **must have met** at an expensive restaurant.
A: She **might not have liked** it very much.

Q: Where did his date go?
A: She **must have gone** to the bathroom.
A: She **might have stood** him **up**?

3. Discussion questions

Q: Have you ever lost something and not been able to find it? What happened to it?

Like most people, I always have one sock that goes missing when I do my laundry. Even though I keep the one sock hoping that I will find the missing sock, I never do find it. I could **chew over** it but it's just a sock, it doesn't really matter. If I had to guess they **might have fallen** behind or under the washing machine.

Q: What do you think your classmates did last weekend?

Well it's hard to **guess about** it but if they're really hard workers they **might have spent** the weekend sleeping and taking it easy. But if they weren't too exhausted then they **must have hung out** with friends or **had** some kind of fun getting into their hobbies.

Q: Can you look back on a moment in your life you truly enjoyed?

For me, I always **look back on** my late high school years with great fondness. They were really enjoyable and I'm lucky to say I have **no regrets** about it all.

Q: Do you ever chew over past mistakes?

I try not to **chew over** past mistakes too much, but it certainly is important to learn from mistakes. Every big mistake I made when I worked as a nurse taught me a life lesson so I thankfully never made those mistakes again.