

Lesson 5 / Handout 5a – KEY

Complete the following using must or can't and the correct infinitive form:

Example: *It's impossible that you saw me in the street at 3 o'clock. I was at work at that time. ->*
*You **can't have seen** me in the street at 3 o'clock. I was at work at that time.*

1. *Robert's always spending lots of money. Obviously he's rich.*
*Robert's always spending a lot of money. He **must be** be rich.*
2. *I haven't got my bag. The only possible explanation is that I left it on the bus.*
*I haven't got my bag. I **must have left** it on the bus.*
3. *I'm sure it isn't very pleasant living in that terrible place.*
*It **can't be** very pleasant living in that terrible place.*
4. *You don't know about this story? Clearly you haven't been reading the papers lately.*
*You don't know about this story? You **can't have been reading** the papers lately.*
5. *Erica hasn't come yet. Obviously she's working late.*
*Erica hasn't come yet. She **must be working** late.*
6. *It's impossible that you've forgotten this already. I only told you five minutes ago.*
*You **can't have forgotten** this already. I only told you five minutes ago.*
7. *It shouldn't be so difficult to do this. Clearly I'm not doing it right.*
*It shouldn't be so difficult to do this. I **can't be doing** it right.*
8. *I'm sure it's taken you a long time to do all this work.*
*It **must have taken** you a long time to do all this work.*
9. *I'm sure you weren't pleased when it happened.*
*You **can't have been** pleased when it happened.*
10. *I couldn't find what I wanted anywhere. Clearly I was looking in the wrong shops.*
*I couldn't find what I wanted anywhere. I **must have been looking** in the wrong shops.*
11. *You're much better at this game now. Clearly you've been practising a lot.*
*You're much better at this game now. You **must have been practising** a lot.*
12. *Tom wasn't as cheerful as he usually is. Obviously he wasn't feeling very well.*
*Tom wasn't as cheerful as he usually is. He **can't have been feeling** very well.*