

IELTS Speaking

Structures: past modal: must have been + ago

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Modal: **must** about **PAST**: **it must have been about XXX**

Use: for saying **WHEN** something happened in the past: using **ago**

It **must have been** about 10 years ago.

Structure: **modal (must)** + **past infinitive – to** (have been)

Speaking note:

1. Use with “I think” + “about” + the approximate length of time ago
2. Use with “something like that” to emphasise approximately

Example: **I think** it must have been **about** 3 years ago... **something like that.**

Modal: **must** about **PAST**: **it must have been about XXX**

Examples in context:

I do not remember exactly when I bought my shoes... but... **I think... it must have been about 9 months ago...** something like that...

I cannot remember exactly when I got my first iPhone... but... **I think... It must have been about 4 years ago...** something like that...

I cannot remember exactly when it was... but... **I think... it must have been about 10 years ago...** something like that...

