

10B | Mysteries

READING

1 The film *The Return of Martin Guerre* tells the story of a man who is not what he seems. Even his wife did not know the truth about him. What do you think the truth was?

2 Read the story of Martin Guerre and put the paragraphs in order. Was your guess in exercise 1 correct?

3 Read the story again. Complete the sentences 1–7 with the phrases a–g.

1 This is the story of a man who suddenly

2 Years later, another man

3 Almost everybody in the family

4 However, the man's uncle

5 In the end, the real Martin Guerre

6 Everybody now

7 The second man

a believes that it is the man who left.

b is killed for his crime.

c knows the truth.

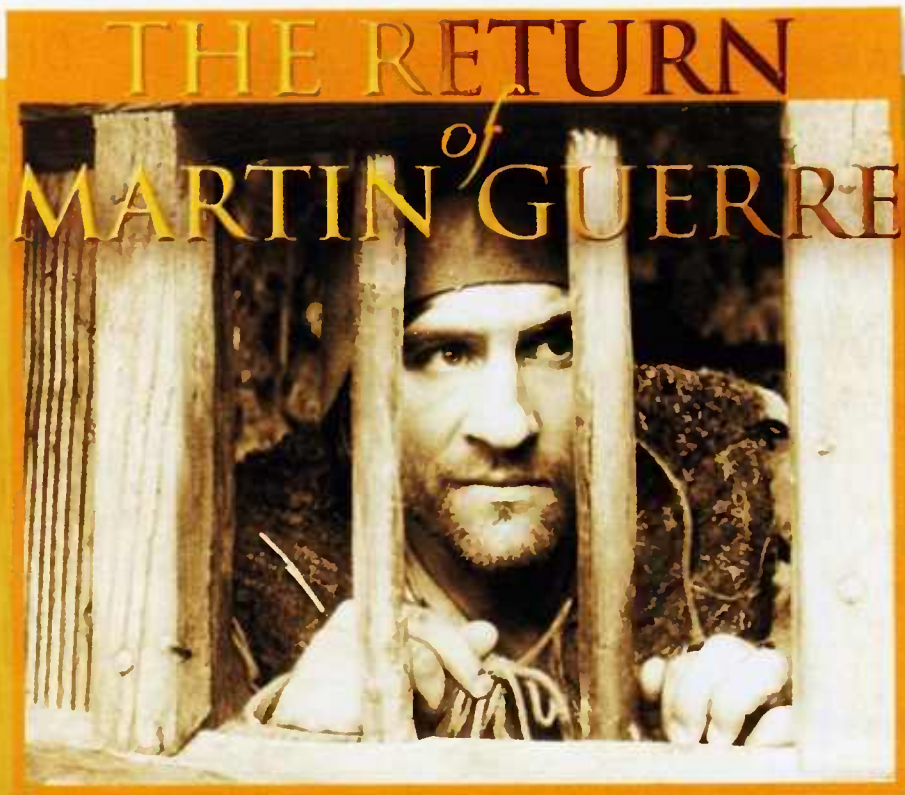
d leaves his wife and child without any explanation.

e returns home from the war.

f suspects that something is wrong.

g takes his place.

4 Could Bertrande really have believed that Arnaud was her husband? Why or why not?



A Pierre accused Martin of being an imposter. Martin was arrested and went to court. At the trial, Bertrande supported her husband. She refused to believe that he was someone else. Arnaud du Tilh convinced the judges that he was telling the truth. The case seemed to be closed when the real Martin Guerre dramatically returned. He had one leg and he had been a soldier. He and du Tilh had been friends in the army.

B There was no news of him until, eight years later, a man arrived in Artigat who claimed to be Martin. His appearance was similar to Martin's, but there were a number of differences. However, he managed to convince Bertrande, his uncle and his four sisters that he was the real Martin Guerre. He moved in with Bertrande and they had two more children. It seems that this time the marriage was much happier.

C When Bertrande also agreed that the man with one leg was her real husband, du Tilh finally admitted his crime. The judges decided that he deserved to die and, four days later, he was hanged in front of the Guerre's family house. The case was solved, but one question remained. How could Bertrande have believed that du Tilh was her husband? Martin Guerre thought that his wife must have known the truth and he never forgave her.

D Martin Guerre was fourteen years old when he got married to Bertrande de Rols, whose family also lived in the village of Artigat in the south of France. It was not a happy marriage, but after eight years, they had a son, Sanxi. Then, when Sanxi was only a few months old, Martin suddenly disappeared. The reasons for his disappearance are not clear, but it is thought that he may have had an argument with his father.

E After a few years, Martin's uncle, Pierre, began to suspect the new Martin. The two men argued about money and Pierre even tried to kill him. Bertrande saved Martin's life. Pierre also met a soldier who said that Martin's real name was Arnaud du Tilh. Arnaud had pretended to be Martin because he wanted to get his money. The real Martin Guerre had lost a leg in the war.

GRAMMAR: modals of speculation (past time)

Use a modal verb + *have* + past participle to make guesses or to speculate about the past.

sure		<i>must</i>		past participle (<i>had, known, seen, said, etc.</i>)
↑	subject	<i>might (not)</i>	have	
less sure		<i>may (not)</i>		
↓		<i>could</i>		
sure		<i>can't</i> <i>couldn't</i>		

*He **may have had** an argument with his father.*

*She **must have known** the truth.*

*How **could she have believed** him?*

SEE LANGUAGE REFERENCE PAGE 104

- Match the sentences 1–6 to one of the newspaper headlines a–d.
 - Politician's clothes found on beach
 - Police find box of snakes on highway
 - ALIEN ATTACKS TEACHER
 - Six people see monster in Chinese mountains

- I'm sure they didn't come from a zoo.
- Someone definitely left them there.
- It's possible that they attacked someone.
- Maybe they fell off the back of a lorry.
- Perhaps they weren't dangerous.
- There's a possibility that someone intended to pick them up later.

- Rewrite the sentences in exercise 1 beginning with the words given below and a modal verb.


1 *They can't have come from a zoo.*

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1 They ... | 4 They ... |
| 2 Someone ... | 5 They ... |
| 3 They ... | 6 Someone ... |

- Now make deductions about the other headlines.

It can't have been an alien!

It might have been someone dressed as an alien.

-  **2.21–2.24** Listen to the recordings to find out what really happened.

VOCABULARY: verbs followed by infinitive

- These words are highlighted in the story about Martin Guerre. Underline the words and the two words that follow them in the story.

began claimed deserved managed
pretended refused seemed tried

- Work in pairs. Complete the text with words from the box in exercise 1.

Before their wedding, Nicola's husband (1) seemed to be normal in every way. But afterwards, he (2) _____ to act very strangely. He often came home late from work and he (3) _____ to say where he had been. Nicola (4) _____ not to mind, but she was very worried. She (5) _____ to speak to him, but he never explained why he was late. Then, one day at dinner, he suddenly (6) _____ to be an alien. He said that all humans were bad and (7) _____ to die. He was very excited, but Nicola (8) _____ to calm him down. But the next morning, her husband had gone and she never saw him again.

SPEAKING

- Work in groups, A and B. You are going to work out the answer to a mystery.

Group A: Read the information below. Find out more information by asking the students in Group B questions. They can only answer *Yes, Sort of, No* or *Not exactly*.

A woman went to the shops and bought a new pair of shoes. Later that day, she went to work and died. How did she die?

After every eight questions, discuss what you have learnt with the other members of your group.

Group B: Turn to page 132. Read the explanation of the situation and answer the questions the students in group A ask you. You can only answer *Yes, Sort of, No* or *Not exactly*.

- Now exchange roles.

Group B: Try to work out the answer to the mystery.

A man was staying in a motel. He went outside to his car and hooted on the horn. He then returned to his room. Why did he hoot on the car horn?

Group A: Turn to page 128 and answer the questions the students in Group B ask you.