

UNIT
31

Future Possibility: *May, Might, Could*

EXERCISE 1 AFFIRMATIVE AND NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

Read Lauren's journal entry. Complete the sentences with the words in parentheses. Choose between affirmative and negative.

Thursday July 3

I was supposed to go to the beach tomorrow, but the weather forecast says it might rain. I'm not really sure what I'll do if it rains. I think I might / rain.

1. _____ shopping at the mall instead. It's a holiday weekend, so there _____ some good sales. I really need

On second thought, shopping _____ such a good idea.

6. (may / be)
The stores will probably be really crowded. I _____ to a
7. (could / go)

movie instead. There's a Spanish film at the local movie theater, but I'm a little afraid that I _____ enough of it. My Spanish really isn't

8. (might / understand)
that good. Maybe I'll call Eric and ask him if he wants to take a drive to see Aunt

Marla and Uncle Phil. He **9. (might / want)** to go, though, because he **1** doesn't like driving in the rain. It's crazy how much the weather affects people's

10. (could / stay) I could stay home and read a good book. That

_____ the best thing to do.

EXERCISE 2 CONTRAST: BE GOING TO OR MIGHT

Read the conversations. Use *be going to* or *might* and the verbs from the box to complete the summary sentences.

buy
call
go
have
rain
read
see
visit
work
write

1. LAUREN: Hello, Julie? This is Lauren. Do you want to go to the mall with me?

JULIE: I don't know. I'm thinking about going to my parents'.

SUMMARY: Julie might visit her parents.

2. JULIE: What are you looking for at the mall?

LAUREN: I need to get a new dress for John's party.

JULIE: Good luck! I hope you find something.

SUMMARY: Lauren buy a new dress.

3. LAUREN: Do you think we'll get some rain?

CARL: Definitely. Look at those clouds.

SUMMARY: Carl thinks it rain.

4. LAUREN: What are you doing today?

CARL: I have tickets for a play.

SUMMARY: Carl have a play.

5. LAUREN: What are you doing this weekend?

KAYLA: I'm not sure. I'm thinking about taking a drive to the country.

SUMMARY: Kayla have for a ride.

6. LAUREN: Say, Eric. Do you want to see Aunt Marla and Uncle Phil tomorrow?

ERIC: I can't. I have to go into the office this weekend—even though it's a holiday.

SUMMARY: Eric have this weekend.

7. LAUREN: How about dinner Saturday night?

ERIC: That's an idea. Can I call and let you know tomorrow?

LAUREN: Sure.

SUMMARY: Lauren and Eric have dinner together.

8. LAUREN: Hi, Aunt Marla. How are you?
- MARLA: Lauren! How are you? It's good to hear your voice. Listen, we just started dinner. Can I call you back?
- LAUREN: Sure.
- MARLA: OK. I'll speak to you later.
- SUMMARY: Marla _____ Lauren later.
9. MARLA: Hi. It's Aunt Marla. Sorry about before. What are you doing home on a holiday weekend? Why aren't you out?
- LAUREN: I'm tired. I just want to stay home with a good book.
- SUMMARY: Lauren _____ a book.
10. MARLA: Do you have any other plans?
- LAUREN: Maybe I'll catch up on some of my emails.
- SUMMARY: Lauren _____ some emails.

EXERCISE 3 EDITING

Read Lauren's email. There are five mistakes in the use of modals to express future possibility. The first mistake is already corrected. Find and correct four more.

