

C Grammar exercises

1 Underline the most suitable words. Sometimes both options are possible.

- 1 He's a concert pianist and he can / *manages to* play all Beethoven's sonatas.
- 2 When I lived in a small town I *was able to* / *could* walk almost everywhere, but now I live in the capital city I need a car.
- 3 They worked all night and *could* / *managed to* finish the report just in time.
- 4 The protestors *didn't manage to* / *couldn't* persuade the president to change the law.
- 5 Next year she *can* / *will be able to* join the club, but she's not old enough yet.
- 6 In my country it *can* / *is able to* get very cold in the winter.
- 7 I was nearly late as the bus didn't come, but luckily I *could* / *managed to* get a taxi.
- 8 I hope that I *will be able to* / *will manage to* do some sightseeing when I'm in New York next week on business, but I've got a busy schedule.
- 9 She didn't get good enough grades to go to her first choice of university but she *could* / *was able to* get a place at another one.

2 Tick (✓) the sentence, a or b, which best matches the sentence on the right.

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| 1a He might be British. | He has a British passport. |
| b He must be British. ✓ | |
| 2a Our teacher can't be off sick. | I just saw him in the corridor talking to a student. |
| b Our teacher may not be off sick. | |
| 3a It can be cold in Delhi in December. | I advise you to take some warm clothes just in case. |
| b It must be cold in Delhi in December. | |
| 4a John can't have been working late last night. | He wasn't home when I called at seven. |
| b John might have been working late last night. | |
| 5a He can't be a millionaire. | He has shares in the most successful company of all time. |
| b He must be a millionaire. | |
| 6a I may come to the lecture this afternoon. | It depends if I finish my essay before then. |
| b I must come to the lecture this afternoon. | |
| 7a The exam may have been very difficult. | Not many people passed it. |
| b The exam must have been very difficult. | |
| 8a John couldn't know how to get here. | We will have to give him directions. |
| b John might not know how to get here. | |