

## Grammar in Action

### A Complete the sentences. Use modal verbs.

- 1 Excuse me, \_\_\_\_\_ you tell me how to use this photocopying machine, please?
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ you change channels to see if there's anything more interesting on, please?
- 3 I really believe you \_\_\_\_\_ accept the job as a chemistry teacher.
- 4 Penny \_\_\_\_\_ be exhausted. She's been at a photo shoot all day.
- 5 Liz has replied to neither my messages nor my phone calls. She's either very busy or she \_\_\_\_\_ be asleep.
- 6 I \_\_\_\_\_ send those reports out for you this evening if you like.

### B Read the dialogue and circle the correct words.

- Joanne:** I'd love a new tablet, but I (1) **can't** / **might** seem to manage without a keyboard. I borrowed my sister's tablet last weekend as I really (2) **had to** / **must** work and I just (3) **didn't have to** / **couldn't** use it.
- Natalie:** Well, you (4) **should** / **need** check out the new touchscreen notebook. It's amazing!
- Joanne:** Oh, I (5) **must** / **would** go to a shop and have a look at one! How small is it? How long does the battery last?
- Natalie:** It's very small and you (6) **needn't** / **may not** worry about the battery. Apparently, it can last up to eight hours.
- Joanne:** (7) **Would** / **Shall** we go and compare prices this afternoon? It (8) **must** / **can** be expensive if it's new.
- Natalie:** Actually, it's not too bad. Let's go and look into it.

### C Circle the correct words.

- 1 Tom is backing up his computer so you **mustn't** / **don't have to** turn it off.
- 2 Jessie **can't be** / **mustn't be** eighteen! Surely she's younger than that.
- 3 Tom really **ought to** / **might** apologise to Sam for breaking his screen.
- 4 **Shall** / **Might** I go ahead and order a new TV?
- 5 **Would** / **Ought** you help me with my science project, please?
- 6 You **needn't** / **mustn't** print the document. I've already printed it.

### D Complete the sentences with modal verbs.

- 1 Helen \_\_\_\_\_ be English. She speaks the language with a heavy accent.
- 2 You \_\_\_\_\_ look those words up in a dictionary. I've already found them.
- 3 Employees \_\_\_\_\_ smoke in the laboratory. It's forbidden.
- 4 Olivia \_\_\_\_\_ take part in the competition, though she's not sure yet.
- 5 I'm always the one who helps the professor. You \_\_\_\_\_ volunteer to help every now and then.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ you make a speech at the next medical conference, Dr Hamilton?



## ECCE in Action

Choose the correct word or phrase to complete the sentences.

- 1 \_\_\_ I borrow your digital camera, please?  
a May  
b Should  
c Would  
d Must
- 2 I think we \_\_\_ to discuss the results of the experiment in private.  
a must  
b would  
c ought  
d can
- 3 Justin \_\_\_ not come with us to the festival. He'll give us a definite answer tonight.  
a should  
b will  
c could  
d might
- 4 When I was at college, we \_\_\_ have a physics lesson every Monday.  
a must  
b would  
c needed to  
d might
- 5 Eliza \_\_\_ me the truth, but she didn't.  
a must tell  
b might have told  
c may tell  
d should have told
- 6 Sam \_\_\_ have read my emails. There's no other way he could have found out about the party.  
a might  
b should  
c must  
d would
- 7 Carla \_\_\_ to be careful or she'll get into trouble.  
a will  
b would  
c ought  
d must
- 8 You \_\_\_ speak to the IT manager this morning. Why didn't you?  
a were able to  
b must  
c ought to  
d were supposed to
- 9 Thankfully Emma \_\_\_ solve my PC issues and I can work properly again.  
a was supposed to  
b was able to  
c needed to  
d had to
- 10 University students \_\_\_ smoke in the halls of residence. It's forbidden.  
a mustn't  
b don't have to  
c not able to  
d needn't
- 11 I \_\_\_ my charger at home. It isn't in my bag.  
a must be leaving  
b could leave  
c must have left  
d may be leaving
- 12 I was so nervous about my exams that I \_\_\_ sleep all night!  
a mustn't  
b shouldn't  
c couldn't  
d mightn't
- 13 We had left our front door keys at home, but fortunately Paul \_\_\_ climb over the fence to open the back door.  
a could  
b must  
c was able to  
d had to
- 14 'Harriet wasn't in the meeting room this morning.' 'Hmm. She \_\_\_ in the laboratory. She had a lesson there this afternoon.'  
a might have been working  
b could be working  
c has to work  
d should have worked
- 15 When she was young, the scientist \_\_\_ often spend all night working on her experiments.  
a should  
b can  
c must  
d would
- 16 Marcia, you \_\_\_ posted all those documents. I've already scanned them and sent them by email.  
a didn't need to  
b needn't have  
c hadn't  
d didn't have to
- 17 'I found these keys in the staff room.' 'Oh, they \_\_\_ be Dr Marshall's. She said she had lost them earlier.'  
a can  
b must  
c would  
d had to
- 18 'I avoided telling Sam the truth as I knew he would be disappointed.' 'Well, you \_\_\_ have told him the truth. He's extremely offended now.'  
a ought to  
b would  
c must  
d needn't
- 19 I'm afraid I \_\_\_ to translate these texts for you next week. I simply don't have the time.  
a couldn't  
b ought not  
c won't be able  
d mustn't
- 20 'Rob didn't seem disappointed this afternoon.' 'The only explanation is that he \_\_\_ have heard the news yet.'  
a shouldn't  
b can't  
c mustn't  
d needn't

## FCE in Action

Complete the text with one word in each gap.

### Life on another planet?

For a long time, people have been anticipating the day when we discover another planet on which humans (1) \_\_\_\_\_ survive; a planet which will therefore be similar to the Earth in size and atmosphere. This day, it seems, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ not be so far away.

Apparently, astronomers have recently been (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to find a planet whose temperature allows liquid to exist on its surface. Does this mean that there is life on this planet and that we, as humans, (4) \_\_\_\_\_ be able to survive there? Even if that is the case, there are still many questions that (5) \_\_\_\_\_ to be answered. Some of us may already (6) \_\_\_\_\_ planning life on another planet, but it will be a while before we can actually go there. The discovery, though, is certainly an exciting step in the right direction.