

Modals for Speculation

1 Choose the correct form.

- 1 I don't know why she didn't answer this question; she ____ nervous.
A may be
B could have been
C must be
- 2 He ____ have revised very much if he failed the exam so unequivocally.
A may
B must
C can't
- 3 They ____ for a competition; perhaps that's why they're practising so intensively.
A could be preparing
B may prepare
C could have been preparing
- 4 The essay questions must ____ by someone really demanding – they were so very hard!
A have written
B have been written
C be writing
- 5 We don't know enough about this candidate; she ____ the right qualifications to teach an advanced class.
A can't have
B may not have
C might have had
- 6 I ____ you these tricks; they're too dangerous.
A definitely won't teach
B won't definitely teach
C will definitely teach
- 7 These exercises ____ funny, but they are really useful if you want to learn to act.
A could be looking
B may look
C can't look

2 Complete the sentences using the words in brackets in the correct forms. Add other words if necessary, but do not change the order of the given words. Use no more than six words in each gap.

- 1 The new lecturer speaks several languages very well; she _____ (may / study) abroad.
- 2 Judging by his skill, he _____ (can / do / this) a very long time – he's not exactly good at it.
- 3 This school is very old; it _____ (must / establish) before my great-grandma was ten years old, because she went to it at that age.
- 4 Someone _____ (must / teach / her) swim like that; I don't think it's possible she learned it all by herself.