

# MODALS OF DEDUCTION

## 1 Choose the correct words.

- A Sam said he was going to Singapore next week. He *might/must* be flying as it's a long way.
- B A: Look – is that Helen?  
B: What? It *can't/must* be. She's in New York at the moment!
- C I heard them speaking Greek so they *must/can't* be from Greece.
- D They speak Portuguese, so they *must/could* be from Brazil.
- E May told me she had never been to a cold country, so she *might/can't* be from Canada.
- F A: Do you think Bob is on his way home?  
B: He *must/can't* be. It's only four o'clock and he doesn't finish until five.
- D It only takes thirty minutes to get there by car so it *might/must* be quite close.
- E A: I tried calling John's home number but there was no answer.  
B: Oh, he *might/can't* be at work.

**Rewrite these observations with the modal verb in parentheses so that the meaning is the same.**

- a** I'm sure you're really cold! (must)  
*You must be really cold!*
- b** I'm sure you're kidding. (must)
- c** I'm sure your keys aren't far away. (can't)

**d** Maybe you won't enjoy the movie. (might not)

**e** I'm sure you know who she is. (must)

**f** I'm sure it's not far from here. (can't)

**g** Maybe you'll meet the love of your life. (might)

**h** I'm sure she isn't that old. (can't)