Must / may / might / could for conclusions

A Choose the correct modal verbs in the sentences.

1. It *may not / couldn't* be snowing.

4. It *could / must* be raining.

2. He *couldn't / must not* have his umbrella with him.

5. The strong winds *might / couldn't* cause serious damage.

3. They *must / might* be preparing for the big storm.

6. He *may / couldn't* be at home.

B Choose the correct meaning of the statements.

1. I see some dark clouds. It might be raining over there.
   a. It's possible that it's raining over there.
   b. It's impossible that it's raining over there.

2. It's started snowing. You may need your heavy coat.
   a. You will definitely need your heavy coat.
   b. It's possible you will need your heavy coat.

3. That lightning was close. We should get inside. We could be in danger.
   a. We're definitely in danger.
   b. It's possible that we are in danger.

4. It's clearing up. The storm might be over.
   a. It's possible that the storm is over.
   b. It's impossible that the storm is over.

5. The roads are icy. It must be dangerous to drive.
   a. I'm almost certain that it's dangerous to drive.
   b. I don't think that it's dangerous to drive.

6. That noise couldn't be thunder. There's not a cloud in the sky.
   a. I'm almost certain it's not thunder.
   b. I think it might be thunder.