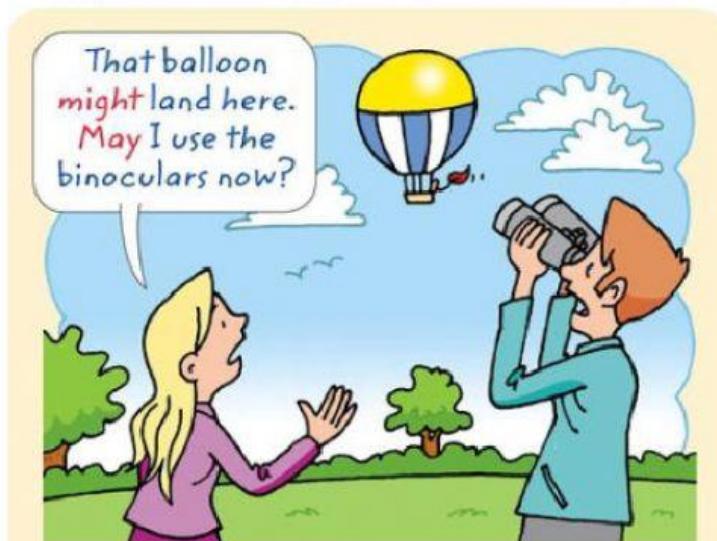


Might and may for possibility



Might and **may** are modal verbs. We use **might** and **may** to talk about something that is possible, but not definite.

Subject	might (not) / may (not)	Base form
It	might	land here.
She	may	want help.

We use **might / may** and **might not / may not** to talk about present possibilities.

is might (may) be might (may) not be isn't

There might be a message on it.

James may have a pen.

We also use **might / may** and **might not / may not** to talk about future possibilities.

will might (may) might (may) not won't

You might hurt someone.

It may land here.

We often use **I think ...** with **might / may** and **might not / may not** when we are not sure about the possibilities.

I think I might go home now.

► 15.1 What might happen? Complete the sentences with the endings below. Then listen and check.



eat it pop help you be a fox see a rainbow



► The cat might eat it !



3 Is it a dog? It might _____.



1 I think this might _____.



4 The balloon might _____ !



2 We might _____.

Are the sentences in exercise 1 about a present (P) or future (F) possibility? Write P or F.

► P 1 ____ 2 ____ 3 ____ 4 ____



15.4 Add responses a–e to the conversations in pictures 1–4. Listen and check, then act out the conversations with a partner.



- a It might be in your bag.
- b I think you might have flu.
- c Do you think it might be Carla?
- d It might snow.
- e It might be a present for me!



1



2



3



4

May for permission

We can use **may** in questions to ask for permission.
We also use **could** but **may** is more formal.





Write the questions in the correct order.

Then practise the conversations with a partner.



► I / ask / a question / may

May I ask a question?
Yes, go ahead. What is it?

1 borrow / I / your / may / dictionary

?
Yes, of course.

2 photocopier / may / use / I / the

?
I'm afraid it's not working at the moment.

3 my bike / here / leave / I / may

?
Yes, of course. It'll be fine here.

4 have / may / a cake / I

?
No, you may not!
You've just had breakfast!