

Read the theory and solve the activities.

Can, Could, Be able to.

1 Complete the following sentences by using **can't**, **could(n't)** or the correct form of **be able to**. Some sentences can be completed in more than one way.

- Fortunately, we *were able to* reach the airport in time for our flight.
- They *find* a solution to the problem yet.
- I have some more chocolate, please?
- Although I tried hard, I *beat* the club champion.
- She *type* as well as anyone I know.
- I'd like *choose* my own working hours.
- *you hear* the teacher clearly from the back of the room?
- Both his sisters *play* a reasonably good game of chess at the age of five.
- We *see* most of the city from the top of the hill.
- Yes, you *borrow* my dress at the weekend.
- He *persuade* his parents to let him go on holiday with his friends.
- Sally *come* to lunch tomorrow; she's working.

Can't & Must

5 Study the examples and then rewrite the sentences.

I am sure he isn't at home now.

He *can't be at home now*

I am sure he isn't working now.

He *can't be working now*



- I am sure Susan isn't at work now. She left the office an hour ago.

Susan

- I am sure my mother isn't cooking again. I saw her cooking at noon.

My mother

- I am sure Mary doesn't study for three hours a day. She isn't a good student.

Mary

- I am sure that your son isn't doing his homework in his room. I saw him in the garden.

Your son

- I am sure she doesn't spend much money. She is poor.

She

6 Study the examples and rewrite the sentences.

I am sure she is at home now.

She *must be at home now*

I am sure she works very hard.

She *must work very hard*

I think she is doing her homework now.

She *must be doing her homework now*

- I am sure she is at the office now. I just spoke to her on the phone.

She

- I think my mother is on her way home. She isn't answering the phone at work.

My mother

3 I am sure Wendy is in Rome now. She got on the plane hours ago.
Wendy

4 I think my teacher exercises everyday. He's very fit.
My teacher

5 I am sure my sister is talking on the phone now. The line is busy.
My sister

7 Complete the sentences with **must** or **can't**.

1 The line is busy. That **must** be Jane. She's always talking on the phone.

2 That **can't** be Mary over there. She went to Paris on Monday.

3 She looks very young. She **can't** be over thirty.

4 He has three expensive cars. He **must** be a rich man.

5 That **can't** be Sue; if it is, she has changed a lot.

8 Rewrite the sentences using **can't have**.

1 I am sure she didn't know the answer.
She **can't have known the answer**.....

2 I am sure we didn't leave the car keys at home.
We

3 I am sure she didn't come home early last night.
She

4 I am sure this man didn't steal my wallet.
This man

5 I am sure he wasn't lying to you about last night.
He

6 I am sure they weren't happy in that house.
They

7 I am sure she hasn't been sleeping well lately.
She

8 I am sure you didn't see Helen at the cinema yesterday.
You



9 Rewrite the sentences using **must have**.

1 I am sure she arrived late for the interview.
She **must have arrived late for the interview**.....

2 I am sure she has told him everything.
She

3 I am sure she was eating when I called.
She

4 I am sure she had invited him before I told her to.
She

5 I am sure she got up late this morning.
She

6 I am certain my sister was talking on the phone all morning.
My sister

7 I am sure she was feeling tired; that's why she went home.
She

8 I am sure James forgot to invite Alice to the party.
James

9 I am sure he had studied a lot before the exam.
He

10 I am sure they were on holiday because the house looked empty.
They

11 I am sure our neighbour called the police.
Our neighbour

12 I am sure you left your bag on the bus.
You

10 Use must have or can't have with the past participle of the verbs in brackets to complete the sentences.

- 1 'Did they go to the cinema yesterday?'
They *must have gone* (go) because there was no one at home when I called.'
- 2 Kate is exhausted. She (work) hard in the garden today.
- 3 Susan's telephone was out of order yesterday. She (phone) you.
- 4 She hadn't seen him before, so she (recognise) him.
- 5 I called her twice but she didn't answer the phone. She (sleep).
- 6 'John translated the letter for me.'
'He doesn't speak French, so he (translate) it.'
- 7 Emma has been at home all day. You (see) her at the restaurant.
- 8 She asked me for money again. She (spend) all the money I gave her.
- 9 He (work) for more than ten hours yesterday. That's why he is so tired today.
- 10 It only takes two hours to fly from London to Rome. She (fly) for four hours.

May / Might, May have / Might have

11 Study the examples and rewrite the sentences.

Perhaps she is at home now.

She *may/might be at home now*

Perhaps she works a lot.

She *may/might work a lot*

It is possible that she is working now.

She *may/might be working now*

- 1 It is possible that she is coming home, but I am not sure.

She

- 2 Perhaps she is much older than she says.

She

- 3 Perhaps he is studying in his room.

He

- 4 It is possible that he will pass his exams.

He

- 5 It is possible that the Browns are moving house, but I am not sure.

The Browns

12 Rewrite the sentences using may/might have or may/might not have.

- 1 Perhaps she hasn't arrived yet.

She *may/might not have arrived yet*

- 2 Perhaps my sister took my pen without asking.

My sister

- 3 Perhaps my parents have gone out.

My parents

- 4 I think they were sleeping when I came in, but I am not sure.

They

- 5 Perhaps John was listening to music.

John

- 6 Perhaps there were a lot of people at the theatre.

There

- 7 Perhaps the robbers left fingerprints all over the house.

The robbers

- 8 Perhaps she wasn't listening and that's why she didn't answer.

She

- 9 Perhaps our son didn't know anything about it.

Our son

- 10 Perhaps you haven't heard about the bank robbery.

You

