Test J: Modal verbs

A

Decide which word is correct.

▶ Could ..... I have some more tea, please?
a) Could b) Shall c) Will d) Would

1 Everyone's asleep. We ..... make a noise.
a) couldn't b) mustn't c) needn't d) wouldn't

2 ..... you like to go for a ride with us?
a) Do b) Should c) Will d) Would

3 I wonder if this is the right way. It ..... not be.
a) can b) could c) might d) must

4 I don't think I want to see this film. ~ Oh, I think you ..... enjoy it.
a) can b) shall c) will d) would

5 I'm quite happy to walk. You ..... drive me home.
a) don't b) haven't c) mustn't d) needn't

6 ..... I show you the way? ~ Oh, thank you.
a) Do b) Shall c) Will d) Would

7 It's late. I think we ..... better go.
a) had b) have c) should d) would

8 We all tried to push the van, but it ..... move.
a) can't b) couldn't c) won't d) wouldn't

B

Some of these sentences are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If the sentence is correct, put a tick (✓). If it is incorrect, cross the unnecessary word out of the sentence and write it in the space.

▶ I won't be able to come to the meeting. ✓
▶ We ~~didn't~~ needn't have watered the garden because it's raining. didn't
1 Would you like to be in the team? .....
2 Did people have to bring their own sleeping-bags? .....
3 I could to ski when I was quite young. .....
4 Would you mind for checking these figures? .....
5 We may be go swimming tomorrow. .....
6 I knew that I would be sorry later. .....
7 If you had fallen, you could have been hurt yourself. .....
8 We're not supposed to use this entrance. .....
9 You don't have to do all the work yourself. .....
10 Anna wasn't be allowed to take photos. .....

C

Write a second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the word in brackets.

▶ Perhaps Susan knows the address. (may)
Susan may know the address.

1 We should be careful. (ought)
.....

2 I managed to finish all my work. (able)
.....

3 I realize that it was a terrible experience for you. (must)
.....

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4 It's against the rules for players to have a drink. (allowed)

.....

5 The best thing for you to do is sit down. (better)

.....

6 The report must be on my desk tomorrow morning. (has)

.....

7 It is possible that Joanne did not receive my message. (might)

.....

8 It's impossible for Martin to be jogging in this weather. (can't)

.....

9 Tessa wants a cup of coffee. (like)

.....

10 It was not necessary for Nancy to clean the flat. (didn't)

.....

D

Say what the speaker is doing. After each sentence write one of the phrases from the box.

asking for advice	*giving an order*	*making a suggestion*	*refusing permission*
asking permission	*inviting*	*offering food*	
expressing a wish	*making a request*	*offering to help*	

▶ Will you have a piece of cake? offering food

1 May I sit down? .....

2 You must report to me every day. .....

3 What jobs should I apply for? .....

4 Would you like to spend the day with us? .....

5 Shall I do the washing-up? .....

6 Shall we sit outside? .....

7 I'm sorry. You can't park here. .....

8 Could you fill in this form, please? .....

9 We really must have a nice big party. .....

E

Here is some information for visitors to New York City.
Write the missing words. Use one word only in each space.

Before you travel to the US, you (▶) must find out what documents you need. You'll probably (1) ..... to get a visa, but there are different rules for different nationalities. For example, you (2) ..... need to show that you have enough money with you. But there's one rule you can be sure about: everyone (3) ..... to show their passport. The roads in New York are very busy, but don't worry – you (4) ..... get around cheaply and easily by subway. Remember that you are not (5) ..... to smoke on public transport or in shops. And don't forget either that you are (6) ..... to tip taxi drivers and waiters. New York is not the most dangerous city in the US, but you really (7) ..... walk along empty streets at night. And it is safer if you are (8) ..... to travel around in a group.

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