Modals and semi-modals

1. Answer true or false about the following statements.
   a. All modal verbs have more than one meaning. True/False
   b. Semi-modal verbs are formed in the same way as modal verbs, but their meanings are different. True/False

2. Which modal verb is missing from all the sentences? Write the full form **once.**

You _____ need some assistance – it's a tough job!
I _____ not be there after all – something's come up.
When I've finished the course, I _____ apply for a new job, but I haven't decided.
_____ you be able to join us this evening?
They _____ be in Holland – look, you can see windmills in the background.

3. What meaning is expressed by the modal and semi-modal verbs highlighted in the sentences?

There's one more thing you **must** do before you apply.
What time are we **supposed to** be there?
We **have to** leave here at nine.

   a. Expressing obligation
   b. Asking permission
   c. Expressing (un)certainty

Can I take it for an hour or so?
Could I ask you something?
Please **may** I go to the toilet?

   a. Expressing obligation
   b. Asking permission
   c. Giving advice/suggestions

She _____ speak fluent Spanish.
You _____'t smoke in here – it's against the law.
_____ I ask a quick favour?
That _____'t be right – surely it's a mistake!
I _____ put you in contact if you need.

When you come for the weekend, we _____ go to the Pyrenees!
I _____n't believe it! It was so close!
Is there any chance you _____ have a look at this proposal?
This photo _____ have been taken in Athens, but I can't remember.

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We **shouldn't** do anything until we know more.
You **must** read this article. It's so interesting!
I think we **ought to** aim to arrive at least fifteen minutes before.

a. Giving advice/suggestions
b. Expressing probability
c. Making a request/offer

I **can't** do anything for a while.
I'm not sure we'll **be able to** find a taxi.
I **could** play the piano perfectly years ago, but not now!

a. Giving advice/suggestions
b. Making a request/offer
c. Expressing (in)ability

I'm sure they'll agree.
It **can't** be a virus.
It **must** be late—it's dark outside.

a. Expressing obligation
b. Expressing willingness/refusal
c. Expressing certainty

_____ we dance?
It's getting cold – _____ we put the heating on?
_____ we meet at, say, seven?
_____ I help you with your homework?

Ah! That'___ be the postman – I'm expecting a delivery.
Accidents _____ happen!
_____ you help me with my homework?
I'___ certainly do my best.
_____ the real Slim Shady please stand up?

What _____ you do in my situation?
I _____n't want to be in your shoes!
_____ you be able to persuade him, do you think?
_____n't it be lovely to have a picnic by the river!
Unfortunately, they _____n't give us permission.

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