

DAY 68. MODAL VERBS

B Modal verbs: *might, could, may* and *can*



Grammar reference on page 215 of the Coursebook.

1 In 1–7, complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0 Would you mind lending me your pen for a moment?

May I borrow your pen for a moment?

1 Although he lives here, we never see him.

He may _____.

2 They're very likely to ask you to speak French during the interview.

You may _____.

3 Perhaps she didn't know you were married.

She might _____.

4 He had a good chance of getting the job, but he didn't apply.

If he'd applied for the job, he could _____.

5 I rarely use my bike these days, so it would make sense if I sold it.

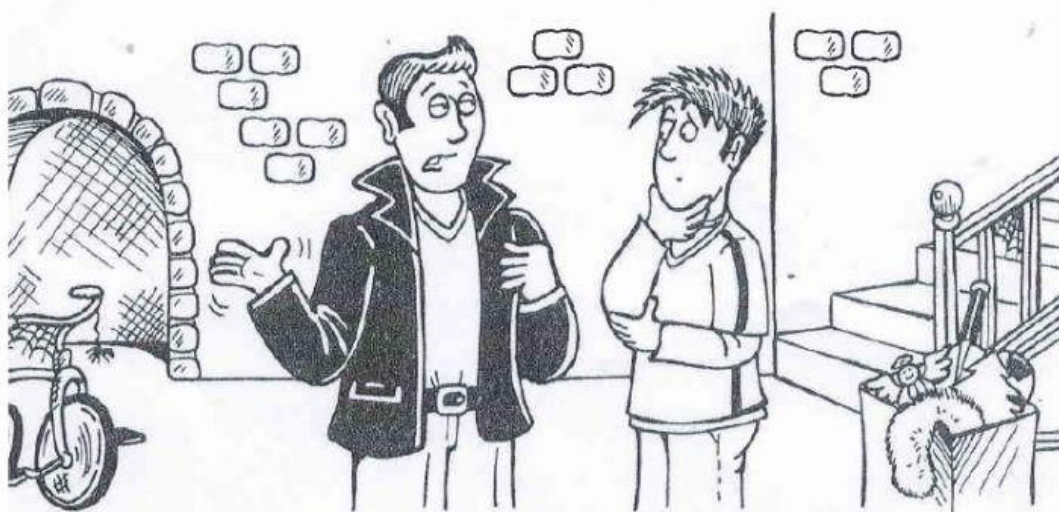
I rarely use my bike these days, so I may _____.

6 Why on earth didn't you tell me you were vegetarian?

You might _____!

7 It's unlikely she was enjoying herself very much.

She can't _____.



I rarely use my bike these days, so it would make sense if I sold it!

2 In 1–7, one of the three alternatives is incorrect. Cross it out. There is an example at the beginning (0).

0 You ~~might not~~/may not/cannot leave until I give you permission.

1 It's not my scarf – I think it ~~might/could~~/can be Graham's.

2 It ~~might/may/could~~ not be warm enough to eat outside tonight, but we'll keep our fingers crossed.

3 He's so lazy – he ~~might/may/could~~ at least offer to do the washing up!

4 I know you didn't want to come, but you ~~might/may/could~~ as well try and enjoy yourself now that you're here.

5 Don't run across the road like that again – you ~~might/may/could~~ have been run over!

6 It was a tough walk, but we ~~could/were able to/managed to~~ reach the end before it got dark.

7 Police are now saying that the fire ~~might/may/could~~ not have been started deliberately, although they have refused to rule out the possibility of arson entirely.