

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

Deduction and possibility

1 ☆ Match the sentences (1–3) with their meanings (a–c).

- 1 I'm sure it's nice to work as a chocolate taster. ☐
- 2 Perhaps it's nice to work as a chocolate taster. ☐
- 3 I'm sure it isn't nice to work as a chocolate taster. ☐

- a It can't be nice to work as a chocolate taster.
- b It must be nice to work as a chocolate taster.
- c It might be nice to work as a chocolate taster.

2 ☆☆☆ Look at the sentence *It might be nice to work as a chocolate taster*. Which two modal verbs with the same meaning can we use in place of *might*?

3 ☆ Circle the correct options to describe the pictures.



He can't / must be tired.



He can't / must feel relaxed.



That car can't / must be expensive!



Careful! It might / must be dangerous



It can't / must be raining.



They might / can't still have some good bargains.

4 ☆☆☆ Complete the conversation about the photo with *must*, *might* or *can't*.



- A Look at this photo! What is it?
 B It ¹ might be a house!
 A No, it ² can't be! How would you get in?
 B It ³ can't be a fake photo. You never know ...
 A No, the photo's real. I think it ⁴ must be art or something. There ⁵ must be another explanation. I'm sure the artist is famous.
 B Perhaps ..., you ⁶ might be right. The person who designed it ⁷ must be very creative!!

5 ☆☆☆ Rewrite the sentences so that they have the same meaning. Use *must*, *might*, *could* or *can't*.

- 1 Perhaps Nathan's still at school.
 Nathan might/could still be at school.
- 2 I'm sure that isn't the right answer.
- 3 I'm sure you need good exam results to do medicine at university.
- 4 This is possibly the worst film I've seen!
- 5 I'm sure it doesn't take a long time to make that dish.

6 ☆☆☆ Write deductions about these situations. Use *must*, *might* or *can't*.

- 1 Matt is a professional footballer.
 He must be very fit.
- 2 All the shops are closed.
- 3 Your mobile phone isn't working.
- 4 Everyone is looking at the sky.