

# MODALS

## Grammar exercises

### 3.1 Choose the correct verb.

- 1 Adult ladybirds **may** / **might** be black, red or yellow.
- 2 We **can** / **be able** to get to the airport in 20 minutes when the new line is finished next year.
- 3 I left home because I **wasn't able** to / **can't** find a job there.
- 4 A: I can't find my purse anywhere.  
B: **May** / **Could** you have left it in the restaurant?
- 5 Not so long ago, more than 20 species of fish **could** / **were able** to be found in this river.
- 6 A: Apparently, there's been an accident in the High Street.  
B: That **might** / **is able** to explain why the bus is taking so long.
- 7 A: Lena says she'll definitely pay the money back.  
B: I wish I **was able** to / **could** trust her.
- 8 This camera is a bit cheaper than the other one, but it **mightn't** / **can't** be as good, of course.

### 3.2 Amir is talking to Martha just before and after a job interview. Choose the correct verb.

Before the interview

A: What time (1) **have** you **to** / **have you got to** / **must** you be there by?  
M: 10.30.  
A: You (2) **must** / **have to** / **have got** to be really nervous.  
M: Terrified! But it doesn't matter, I know I won't get the job.  
A: You (3) **haven't got to** / **mustn't** / **can't** be sure of that. You've got just the right experience and qualifications.  
M: But I feel tense. I'm worried I (4) **can't** / **couldn't** / **mightn't** make a good impression in the interview.  
A: I'm sure you'll be okay.

After the interview

M: I got it!  
A: Congratulations! What (5) **had** you **got to** / **must** you / **did you have to** do?  
M: Well, mainly I (6) **had got to** / **had to** / **must** tell them why I wanted to work there.  
A: And does the job sound good?  
M: Fantastic. I'll (7) **have to** / **must** / **have got** to do a lot of travelling.  
A: Well that (8) **oughtn't to** / **shouldn't** / **mustn't** be a problem for you.  
M: No, and I may (9) **must** / **have to** / **have got** to spend some time in Barcelona.  
A: Well, I think we should certainly go out for a meal to celebrate.  
M: Great idea.

### 3.3 Choose the correct sentence ending. Sometimes both are possible.

- 1 I have to get up early tomorrow, so I ...
  - a **mustn't be too late going to bed tonight.**
  - b don't need to be too late going to bed tonight.
- 2 When we got to the station, we found that the train was half an hour late, so we ...
  - a didn't need to rush after all.
  - b needn't have rushed after all.
- 3 The meeting will be quite informal, so you ...
  - a don't need to wear a suit.
  - b don't have to wear a suit.
- 4 Fortunately, he wasn't badly hurt in the accident, so he ...
  - a needn't go to hospital.
  - b didn't need to go to hospital.
- 5 Gwen has lost a lot of weight during her illness, so you ...
  - a needn't look surprised when you see her again.
  - b mustn't look surprised when you see her again.
- 6 The tennis courts are open to the public, so you ...
  - a needn't be a member of the club to play here.
  - b mustn't be a member of the club to play here.
- 7 The house was in good condition when I bought it, so I ...
  - a didn't need to decorate before I moved in.
  - b didn't have to decorate before I moved in.
- 8 As it turned out, the exam was quite easy, so I ...
  - a didn't have to spend all that time revising.
  - b needn't have spent all that time revising.