

MODAL VERB	USE	MEANING	EXAMPLE
MAY	Formal Permission / Possibility	Something is possible (50-70%)	✓ It may rain today. ✓ You may go now.
MIGHT	Weak Possibility	Something is possible (30-50%)	✓ We might be late. ✓ She might not come.
MUST	Obligation / Necessity	Sure something is 90 - 100% true, Necessary or Prohibition	✓ She must be in the garden. ✓ You must stop smoking. ✓ You mustn't wait here.
CAN	Ability / Possibility / Permission	Someone is able to do something / It's possible	✓ I can swim. ✓ You can see the mountains from here.



- CAN is used for strong ability or real possibilities.
- MAY is more polite/formal than CAN.
- MIGHT shows less certainty than MAY.

1. Choose the correct answer

It ___ rain later, so take an umbrella.

a) can b) may c) must

She ___ play the guitar very well.

a) can b) might c) should

We ___ go to the zoo tomorrow if it doesn't rain.

a) may b) can't c) must

They ___ arrive late because of the traffic.

a) might b) can c) mustn't

I ___ swim very well.

a) may b) might c) can

Our teacher says we _____ study for the test if we want to do well.

a) can b) may c) must

2. Reorganize the Sentence. Rewrite the words in the correct order.

1. rain / it / later / might _____

2. help / I / can / you _____

3. the / may / they / park / visit _____

4. might / tired / feel / you / after / the / walk _____

5. swim / can / dogs _____

3. Circle the correct verb.

A Don't look now but isn't that Jane Marshall over there?

B Where?

A At that table by the window.

B No, it **must** / **can't** be. She went to live in Chicago.

A But I'm sure it's Jane.

B Mmm, I suppose it **can't** / **might** be her. But if it is, she looks much thinner than she used to.

A Well it **must** / **can't** be five years since we last saw her. Someone can change a lot in five years!

B You're right, it is Jane. But who do you think the man is? He **can't** / **might not** be her husband, can he?

A No, he **can't** / **might not** be. They broke up years ago and haven't spoken to each other since.

B It **can** / **may** be her new boyfriend – or her son!

A Shall we go over and find out?

**4. Answer in your own words.**1. What can you do that your friends can't?
_____2. Describe something you might do next weekend.
_____3. When may you ask for help at school?
_____4. What places might you visit in your city?
