

Grammar EXTRA! Worksheet 1

Modal verbs – *must, can't, could, may and might*

1a Complete the sentences with the words in the box. Use each word only once.

can't could might must

- 1 It be Colin. I'm certain it's him.
- 2 It be Colin, but it also be John.
- 3 It be Colin because he doesn't speak French.

b Which sentences (1–3) show that something is:

a possible b impossible c certain

2 Read these sentences. Write *P* if the sentence shows something is possible, *C* if it shows something is certain or *I* if it shows something is impossible.

- 1 It can't be ice because it isn't cold.
- 2 Jack might be at home because the lights are on.
- 3 You must be tired because you've been working hard all day.
- 4 **A** Whose keys are these?
B They must be John's. He lost his keys earlier.
- 5 **A** Who's that at the door?
B It can't be Paul because he's at work.
- 6 I'm sorry. I might be late because the traffic is really bad.

3 Choose the correct word.

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-------|---|
| HOST | What's the capital city of South Africa? Is it Cape Town, Pretoria or Johannesburg? | PAUL | Well, it (5) <i>could</i> / <i>can't</i> be the Nile because that's in Africa. |
| PAUL | Hm, that's difficult. What do you think, John? | JOHN | And I know the Rhine is shorter than the Danube, so it (6) <i>can't</i> / <i>must</i> be that. |
| JOHN | I don't know. It (1) <i>could</i> / <i>must</i> be Cape Town. | PAUL | I don't think it's the Volga. Is that in Europe? |
| DIANA | No, it (2) <i>can't</i> / <i>must</i> be Cape Town because that's on the coast and I'm sure the capital city isn't on the coast. | DIANA | Yes, it is. So it (7) <i>could</i> / <i>can't</i> be the Danube or the Volga. |
| PAUL | Yes, you're right. So it (3) <i>can't</i> / <i>could</i> be Pretoria or Johannesburg. | PAUL | Can we ask for another clue? |
| JOHN | Can we have a clue? | HOST | Yes, the river doesn't go through Hungary. |
| HOST | Yes, okay. It isn't Johannesburg. | DIANA | Then it (8) <i>can't</i> / <i>must</i> be the Volga because the Danube goes through Budapest, which is the capital of Hungary. |
| PAUL | Then it (4) <i>could</i> / <i>must</i> be Pretoria. | | |
| HOST | That's right. Here's your next question. Which is the longest river in Europe? Is it the Volga, the Nile, the Danube or the Rhine. | | |