

GRAMMAR REFERENCE AND PRACTICE

WITH A TEACHER

UNIT 12 Modals of probability

Practice

1 Rewrite the underlined words in the sentences using *must*.

1 Jon's gone out without a coat. I'm sure he's cold.

2 I put the potatoes in the oven an hour ago. I'm certain they're ready to eat by now.

3 I know this parcel is my new phone because I ordered it last week.

4 My computer is very slow. I'm sure it's broken.

2 Rewrite the underlined words in the sentences using *might*.

1 That cat wants something. Perhaps he's hungry.

2 I don't know where my phone is. Perhaps it's in the car.

3 It's possible that my teacher speaks three languages. I'm not sure.

3 Look at your answers to Exercise 2. Can you replace *might* with a different modal verb?

4 Rewrite the underlined words in the sentences using *can't*.

1 This fish smells terrible. I'm certain it isn't fresh.

2 I don't believe that coat belongs to you. It's much too small.

3 It's not possible that you feel tired. You've been asleep for twelve hours!

5 Choose the correct verbs.

Liz has come to visit Becca on her birthday.

Becca: Hi, Liz, come in. I'm having a great day.
I've got lots of cards and some great presents.
But what's this parcel? I didn't notice it before. Oh dear, there's no card with it.

Liz: Is it from your sister?

Becca: It ¹ *can't be / must be* from her – I've already opened her present.

Liz: Is it from your parents?

Becca: No, it ² *can't be / could be* from them either because they're giving me a new bike. We're going to get it later.

Liz: Is it from your grandparents?

Becca: It ³ *could be / must be* from them, I guess.
They usually send me something, but I don't know how it got here.

Liz: Well, the card ⁴ *might be / can't be* inside.

Becca: Yes, but it's a strange shape. I wonder what it is. The wrapping paper is really beautiful. It ⁵ *must be / can't be* something special.

Liz: It's not very big. It ⁶ *could be / must be* a new phone. Did you ask for one?

Becca: No. Anyway, it's hard at one end and softer at the other, so it ⁷ *can't be / might be* a phone. OK, I'm going to open it. Oh, wow, it's some of those brushes I saw in the art shop last week! And here's the card. It says 'Love from Liz'! I didn't see you bring the parcel in.

Liz: Well, I knew you wanted some and so I thought they ⁸ *could be / must be* a good present.

Becca: They're perfect, thank you so much!