

MUST, MIGHT & CAN'T: DEDUCTION

B1 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Writing | 20-30 minutes

Complete questions, write detailed answers and form questions of your own.

EXAMPLE

Question: Where **might** Jo **be**?

Answer: She **must be** nearby; her bike is outside. She **might be** in the cafe.

Remember: Must: strong positive deduction. Might: uncertain. Cannot/can't: strong negative deduction.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Complete the questions using the grammar cues. Write full answers with a relevant detail.

1. Someone worked all night. How _____ they feel? (must)

Answer: _____

2. A friend is carrying a suitcase. Where _____ they be going? (might)

Answer: _____

3. Jo is abroad. Why _____ the person outside be Jo? (can't)

Answer: _____

4. You hear voices in a dark room. What _____ be happening? (might)

Answer: _____

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

Put the words in order. Write each question. Start with a capital letter and add ?.

1. closed / must / be / shop / why / the

2. could / explanation / be / another / there

3. what / noise / might / be / the

Try it: Ask your partner the questions in B. Ask one follow-up of your own.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

A. COMPLETE AND ANSWER

Target forms and model answers are shown below. Personal answers will vary.

1. must - Someone worked all night. How must they feel?

Sample answer: They must feel tired because they've had very little sleep.

2. might - A friend is carrying a suitcase. Where might they be going?

Sample answer: They might be going on holiday, or moving their things somewhere.

3. can't - Jo is abroad. Why can't the person outside be Jo?

Sample answer: It can't be Jo because she is in another country this week.

4. might - You hear voices in a dark room. What might be happening?

Sample answer: People might be watching a film with the lights off.

B. WRITE THE QUESTIONS

1. **Why must the shop be closed?**

2. **Could there be another explanation?**

3. **What might the noise be?**

TEACHER NOTES

Deductions require evidence. Must expresses strong confidence, but is not proof of the conclusion.

Accept correct full forms and contractions. Check that answers match the question.

Encourage one relevant detail; check word order, capitals and question marks in B.