

Modal verbs of obligation, prohibition, advice, speculation and deduction

1 Circle the correct alternative.

- I shouldn't/needn't buy this dress as I can't really afford it.
- You must/can't have a receipt if you want to return the item.
- We don't have to/mustn't pay in cash – they accept credit cards.
- I'm sorry, but the bank isn't allowed to/needn't give you a loan at the moment.
- If we're going to take a taxi, you'd better/must download that app.
- They ought to/don't need to check their current account to make sure they have enough money.

2 Complete the text with the correct form of the verbs given.

Last week, I had a bad banking experience. I

- (1) (have to pay) someone £100 in cash, so I took the money out of a cashpoint. Then the cashpoint retained my card. I
(2) (can not find) a branch of the bank, so I (3) (have to call) them. I explained that the cashpoint
(4) (should not take) my card. They explained that they (5)
(not allow to look) for the card, and they ordered me a new one. It was very annoying as I
(6) (need to get) more money out later.

3 Circle the correct answer.

- I think it Joe's lottery ticket because that number is his birthday, but I'm not sure.
a must be b might be c can't be
- This Freddy's jacket. He only wears designer clothes and this one is definitely not designer!
a must be b may not be c can't be
- This Jane's bag because this is her phone.
a can't be b must be c might be
- She's sorry, but she be able to go on the trip after all.
a might not b must not c cannot
- This bill be right. We didn't order five pizzas, did we?
a must b might c can't
- This be a mistake – surely this price isn't right.
a must b can't c might

4 Find and correct the mistakes.

- Don't buy her that book. I think she might to have read it already.
- You must had a lot of money to afford that. It cost over £200, didn't it?
- They can't have leave without paying the bill. That's a crime!
- He could have been asked for a loan to help him pay the bills.
- I may not paid the bill on time which is why the bank has charged us.
- You can't forgotten to repay the loan. It was in the diary and on the calendar.

5 Complete the text with the words in the box.

could easily have got lost • couldn't help •
had better have • had needed • might be •
might have forgotten • must be • must be •
must have been • should always take

Twice a winner!

Tim and Nina Jones now think Tuesday

- (1) their lucky day. They both bought lottery tickets and used the same lucky numbers. After the Tuesday draw, Tim checked his ticket and realised they had won £500,000. Although Nina was asleep, Tim woke her up. She said, 'You (2) a good reason for waking me up!' A few days later, they found the second ticket in a kitchen drawer. Nina (3) so happy with the first win that she forgot she had another ticket. She was lucky that she (4) something from the drawer and found the ticket. Otherwise, they (5) all about it. She said the ticket (6) when she tidied up. She said she (7) feeling that someone was looking after her. Their motto now is that you (8) a chance and give something a go. You never know when you (9) a winner! As the saying goes: 'You (10) in it to win it!'