

Must, Might, Can't: How Sure Are You?

Modals show how sure you are that something is true. **Must**: you're almost certain (*She must be tired.*). **Should**: you expect it (*The parcel should arrive today.*). **Might / may / could**: it's possible (*He might be at home.*). **Can't**: you're sure it isn't true (*That can't be Ana. She's in Spain.*).

She's been working all day. She **must be** tired.



1. Choose the right answer Circle a or b.

- Her car isn't here. She _____ at work.
a) must be b) can't be
- That _____ Tom. Tom's in Australia this month.
a) must be b) can't be
- I'm not sure where she is. She _____ in the library.
a) might be b) must be
- You've just eaten a huge meal. You _____ hungry!
a) mustn't be b) can't be
- Take a jacket. It _____ cold later.
a) could get b) must get

2. Correct the mistake

Each sentence has one mistake. Write the correct sentence.

1. He mustn't be at home. The lights are off.

2. She must to be tired.

3. It might rains later.

3. Your turn

Write three sentences of your own that use this rule. You can use these phrases.

must be

can't be

might be

could be

should be

may well

See the rule move

The full lesson, with more pictures, examples and a quiz that checks your answers, is free at
clarigram.app/modals/certainty

Must, Might, Can't: How Sure Are You?

1. Choose the right answer

1. **a) must be** The evidence (her car is gone) makes it almost certain.
2. **b) can't be** You're sure it isn't true: can't.
3. **a) might be** You're not sure: might.
4. **b) can't be** For certainty, the negative of must is can't.
5. **a) could get** It's possible, not certain: could.

2. Correct the mistake

1. **He can't be at home. The lights are off.** For certainty, the negative of must is can't.
2. **She must be tired.** No to after modals.
3. **It might rain later.** After a modal, use the base verb with no -s.

3. Your turn

Answers will vary. Check that each sentence follows the rule on page 1, or paste them into Clarigram to have them checked.