## might

A



He **might go** to New York. (= it is possible that he will go to New York)



It might rain. (= it is possible that it will rain)

## might + infinitive (might go / might be / might rain etc.):

I/we/you/they he/she/it	might	(not)	be go play come etc.
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- В I **might**  $\dots$  = it is possible that I will  $\dots$ :
  - I might go to the cinema this evening. (= it is possible that I will go)
  - A: When is Barbara going to phone you? B: I don't know. She **might phone** this afternoon.
  - Take an umbrella with you. It might rain.
  - Buy a lottery ticket. You might be lucky. (= perhaps you will be lucky)
  - 'Are you going out tonight?' 'I might.' (= I might go out)

## Study the difference:

- I'm playing tennis tomorrow. (sure) I might play tennis tomorrow. (possible)
- Barbara is going to phone later. (sure) Barbara **might phone** later. (possible)
- C The negative is **might not**:
  - I might not go to work tomorrow. (= it is possible that I will not go)
  - Sue **might not come** to the party. (= it is possible that she will not come)
- D may

You can use **may** in the same way. **I may**  $\dots = \mathbf{I}$  **might**  $\dots$ :

- I may go to the cinema this evening. (= I might go)
- Sue **may not come** to the party. (= Sue might not come)

**May I** ... ? = Is it OK to ... / Can I ... ?:

- May I ask a question? (= Can I ask?)
- 'May I sit here?' 'Yes, of course.'