

Lesson - 4

May/Might/Must

- **May, might**, and **must** are the words of possibilities, we use them when we express the **degree of possibility** of any action.
- **May** is also used for **taking and giving permission** in a formal setting. As as well as expressing **wishes**.

Uses of **May** and **Might**:



Possibility

-It **might** rain later, so take an umbrella.



Give Permission

-You **may** have another cookie if you like.



Ask for Permission

-**May** I borrow your pen please?



Express Wishes

-**May** the New Year bring you happiness.



Speculate About Past Actions

-He is late. He **may** have missed his bus.

May or Might?

May and Might can normally be interchanged without a significant difference in meaning. However, **Might** often implies a smaller chance of something happening (when expressing possibility).

- It may rain. (70% chance)

- It might rain. (40% chance)

When expressing wishes or giving permission, only **May** is used.

⇒ Possibility Degree:

Word	Possibility
Must	99%
May	50-80%
Might	20-40%

⇒ Examples:

MAY/MIGHT 

May and might are used to show that *something is possible*.

It **may** rain tonight.
It **might** rain tonight.

MUST 

Shows that something is *necessary or very important or is likely or logical*.

All visitors **must** park behind the building.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

GRAMMAR QUIZ

MAY and MIGHT (possibility)

Complete these eighteen sentences by choosing the best answers.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. My family and I ... travel to Montreal next summer.
a) might
b) might be | 10. I think that you ... wrong. I think the meeting is tomorrow, not today.
a) may
b) may be |
| 2. John isn't in class today. I think he ... sick.
a) might
b) might be | 11. It ... rain later today, so I'm going to take my umbrella.
a) might
b) might not |
| 3. I ... at work tomorrow morning because I have a bad cold.
a) may be
b) may not be | 12. Hurry! Let's get to the store before it closes. It ... open after six.
a) might be
b) might not be |
| 4. We ... have a grammar exam next week. Let's study!
a) may
b) may be | 13. Oh, no! The airplane ... be delayed because of the bad weather.
a) may
b) may not |
| 5. There's no sound coming from the radio. It ... broken.
a) might
b) might be | 14. I'm not sure who she is. She ... our new teacher.
a) may be b)
may not |
| 6. I ... late today because I may have some extra work to do.
a) may not
b) may be | 15. There ... cookies inside this box! Let's open it and find out!
a) might be b)
might not |
| 7. Many scientists think that there ... life on other planets.
a) may
b) may be | 16. No, calling Mr. Smith at two o'clock in the morning ... a good idea.
a) might be
b) might not be |
| 8. This bag ... your bag. I can't see your name on it.
a) might be
b) might not be | 17. I don't feel well. I ... have to see a doctor.
a) might
b) might be |
| 9. I don't know what kind of insect this is. It ... some kind of ant.
a) might
b) might be | 18. (A) What is the capital city of Spain? (B) I'm not sure but it ... Madrid.
a) might
b) might be |

17 – 18 = Excellent 15 – 16 = Good 14 or Less = Study More!

The English Developer

ANSWER KEY

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. A | 10. B |
| 2. B | 11. A |
| 3. B | 12. B |
| 4. A | 13. A |
| 5. B | 14. A |
| 6. B | 15. A |
| 7. B | 16. B |
| 8. B | 17. A |
| 9. B | 18. B |

I might + **(verb)**

I might be + **(noun)**

I might be + **(verb + 'ing')**

I might be + **(adjective)**

I might be + **(preposition)**