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Final exam - practical course in English, 2nd semester, School of Mathematics and Computer Science

1. Look at the following sentences and identify those that express degrees of likelihood (certainty, probability, or possibility). Categorize the remaining sentences in terms of what their modals express (obligation, permission, ability and willingness): (1p x 9+1p oficiu = 10p)

- Likelihood* {
- 1) You *can* borrow the car, I don't need it. *permission*
 - 2) He *can* still be at the office, it's after 9 o'clock.
 - 3) I *can't* hear you very well, the line's bad. *ability*
 - 4) That *won't* be the postman at the door, he's been already.
 - 5) *Will* you give me a hand with this? It's so heavy. *willingness*
 - 6) John's awful. He simply *won't* admit that he's made a mistake! *willingness*
 - 7) He'll be at the airport by now.
 - 8) No, you *may* not leave before the end. *permission*
 - 9) We *may* be in for a rough crossing, there's a storm coming.

2. Write 1 beside the verb WOULD if it refers to a past habit and 2 if it refers to a future-in-the-past. (1,5p x 6+1p oficiu = 10p)

- a) Every night when I was a child, one of my parents (1) *would* read me a story, then the other (1) *would* hold my hand until I fell asleep.
- b) I come from quite a poor background. If my parents ever had any money, which was rare, they (1) *would* pay all their debts and try to clothe us kids.
- c) The couple looked around their new house, excited yet anxious. It (2) *would* be a long time before everything was how they wanted.
- d) When I was younger, I (1) *would* stay up night after night going to parties, but I find I need my sleep these days.
- e) Before stepping into the plane, she looked around wistfully at the country she had grown to love. She wanted to savour every last sensation. It (2) *would* be a long time before she came back.

3. Correct the error or errors in each sentence: (1p x 9+1p oficiu = 10p)

- a) I wish I ~~bought~~ that old house. *had bought*
- b) I'd rather you ~~don't~~ eat all the bread. *didn't*
- c) It's time I go. *went*
- d) I wish I ~~own~~ a motorbike. *owned*
- e) I wish we ~~are~~ not leaving in the morning. *we were not*
- f) Sue would rather ~~reading~~ than ~~watching~~ television. *Sue would rather read than watch Tv.*
- g) Come what ~~comes~~, I'll be on your side. *what may*
- h) I ~~hope~~ it would stop raining. *I wish it will stop raining.*
- i) I'd ~~prefer~~ you didn't wait. *rather*