

# Practice

Underline the correct word or phrase in each sentence.

- a) There's someone at the door. It *can/must* be the postman.
- b) Don't worry, you *don't have to/mustn't* pay now.
- c) I think you *had better/would better* take a pullover with you.
- d) Jones *could/must* be president if Smith has to resign.
- e) Sorry, I can't stay any longer. I *have to/might* go.
- f) It was 5 o'clock an hour ago. Your watch *can't/mustn't* be right.
- g) It's a school rule, all the pupils *have to/must* wear a uniform.
- h) I suppose that our team *must/should* win, but I'm not sure.
- i) Let's tell Diana. She *could/might* not know.
- j) In my opinion, the government *might/should* do something about this.

- 2 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.



- a) I think you should give up smoking immediately.  
**had**  
I think you ...*had better give up*.....smoking immediately.
- b) I expect we will get there by 5.00, if there isn't too much traffic.  
**should**  
We.....5.00, if there isn't too much traffic.
- c) Is it necessary for me to bring my passport?  
**have**  
Do.....my passport?
- d) I am sure that the cat is in the house somewhere.  
**be**  
The cat.....in the house somewhere.
- e) An aerial is not required with this radio.  
**have**  
You don't.....an aerial with this radio.

GRAMMAR 16 MODAL VERBS: PRESENT AND FUTURE

- f) It is very inconvenient if you can't drive.  
to  
It's very inconvenient if.....drive.
- g) I am sure that John is not the thief.  
be  
John.....the thief.
- h) I am certain that Norman will be late.  
**bound**  
Norman.....late.
- i) All students should report to the main hall at 9.00.  
are  
All students.....to the main hall at 9.00.
- j) I thought that you would know better!  
**ought**  
You.....better!

3 Underline the most suitable word or phrase in each sentence.

- a) We can't be lost. *It isn't allowed/I don't believe it.*
- b) Jane is bound to be late. *She always is/She must be.*
- c) Late-comers are to report to the main office. *It's a good idea/It's the rule.*
- d) You don't have to stay *unless it's necessary/if you don't want to.*
- e) Astronauts must feel afraid sometimes. *They're supposed to/It's only natural.*
- f) You can't come in here. *It isn't allowed/I don't believe it.*
- g) All motorcyclists have to wear crash helmets. *It's a good idea/It's the rule.*
- h) I ought not to tell Jack. *It's not a good idea/It's the rule.*
- i) We should be there soon. *I expect so/It's absolutely certain.*
- j) You'd better leave now. *That's my advice/That's an order!*

4 Complete each sentence so that it contains *might, might not, must, mustn't, can* or *can't*. More than one answer may be possible.

- a) Don't stand up in the boat! You.....**might**..... fall in the river!
- b) Sue says she's stuck in traffic and she.....be late.
- c) You really.....start spending more time on your work.
- d) Tell Peter he.....stay the night here if he wants to.
- e) That's a really stupid idea! You.....be serious, surely!
- f) You.....realise it, but this is very important to me.
- g) Don't be silly. You.....expect me to believe you!
- h) We're not sure but we.....go to Prague for Christmas this year.
- i) Me learn to fly! You.....be joking!
- j) Bill cooked the lunch, so you.....expect anything special!