

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 56

### Exercise 1 — True or False? (8 points)

Read each statement. Write **True** or **False**.

1. "Must" for deduction is based on evidence the speaker can observe or infer.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

2. "Can't" for deduction means the speaker thinks something is unlikely but possible.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

3. "Could have" refers to something that was possible in the past but did not happen.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

4. "Should have" expresses satisfaction with a past decision.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. "Ought to" is always followed by a base verb with "to".

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

6. "May" is typically more informal than "might".

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

7. "Would have" describes what would have occurred under different past circumstances.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

8. "Ought to have" + past participle means something was expected but did not happen.

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb. Circle your answer.

1. The heating is on full — someone \_\_\_\_ have left it running overnight.

( must / can't / ought to )

2. This \_\_\_\_ be his signature — he always uses block capitals.

( can't / must / may )

3. They \_\_\_\_ circulated the minutes sooner — everyone was confused about the decisions.

( should have / could have / would have )

4. The results \_\_\_\_ point to a wider issue across the whole department.

( may / must / ought to )

5. We \_\_\_\_ taken the coast road — it would have been much quicker.

( could have / should have / would have )

6. Employers \_\_\_\_ provide clear written contracts to all staff from day one.  
( ought to / can't / may )
7. I \_\_\_\_ joined the project if I had known it was still running.  
( would have / should have / ought to )
8. Changes to the schedule \_\_\_\_ be communicated to delegates in advance.  
( ought to / may / must )

### Exercise 3 — Matching (8 points)

Match each sentence (1–8) to the correct meaning (A–H). Write the letter.

| Sentences                                                                    | Meanings                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. There's a light on in the attic — someone must be up there.               | A. <u>The</u> speaker is almost certain the item in question is incorrect or impossible.          |
| 2. This can't be the invoice — the amounts don't match at all.               | B. <u>A</u> possibility stated in formal or official language.                                    |
| 3. The report should have been submitted two weeks ago.                      | C. <u>Something</u> was expected but failed to happen — the speaker is expressing disappointment. |
| 4. You could have mentioned this in the initial briefing. ____               | D. <u>A moral expectation</u> — this is what the speaker believes should happen.                  |
| 5. She would have taken the position if the relocation hadn't been required. | E. <u>A</u> <u>remote</u> possibility — no firm conclusion has been reached yet.                  |
| 6. The audit findings may prompt a full review of procedures.                | F. <u>The</u> information existed but was not shared — an unrealised past opportunity.            |
| 7. All parties ought to respect the terms of the original agreement.         | G. <u>A</u> <u>past</u> outcome that was prevented by a different circumstance.                   |
| 8. Delays may occur during peak periods. ____                                | H. <u>A</u> conclusion the speaker feels certain about based on visible evidence.                 |

### Exercise 4 — Gap Fill (8 points)

Choose the correct modal from the brackets.

1. He's been silent for three days — \_\_\_\_ know something we don't.  
( he must / he can't / he ought to )
2. These \_\_\_\_ be the original files — they're dated last year.  
( can't / must / may )
3. Someone \_\_\_\_ secured the building before the storm — the roof is badly damaged.  
( should have / could have / would have )
4. The data \_\_\_\_ reveal patterns not visible in smaller samples.  
( may / must / ought to )
5. We \_\_\_\_ negotiated a better rate if we'd pushed harder.  
( could have / should have / would have )
6. Landlords \_\_\_\_ maintain properties to a safe and habitable standard.  
( ought to / can't / may )
7. She \_\_\_\_ applied earlier if she'd known the deadline was being brought forward.  
( would have / should have / ought to )
8. The investigation \_\_\_\_ take several months to complete.

( may / must / ought to )

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### Exercise 5 — Word Order (8 points)

Put the words in the correct order to make a sentence.

1. He / must / be / on / his / way / — his / coat / is / gone

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2. That / can't / be / her / handwriting / — she's / left-handed

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3. should / been / We / told / about / have / this / earlier

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4. could / have / avoided / the / We / conflict / entirely

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5. would / I / spoken / up / have / if / asked / been / I'd

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6. ought / to / be / Contracts / reviewed / annually

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7. The / findings / may / a / policy / trigger / change

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8. ought / to / have / been / The / sent / sooner / invoice

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## Exercise 6 — Word Sort (8 points)

Read each sentence carefully. Write it in the correct column.

**Word bank:** The window is open — someone \_\_\_\_ have been in here recently. | That \_\_\_\_ be the right version — this one has the old logo. | He \_\_\_\_ be the new director — he looks far too young. | We \_\_\_\_ flagged the risk earlier — it was visible in the data. | She \_\_\_\_ submitted her application online instead of by post. | They \_\_\_\_ consulted us before going ahead with the changes. | The tribunal \_\_\_\_ request additional documentation. | The report \_\_\_\_ be made available to the public in due course. | Further guidance \_\_\_\_ follow once the review is complete. | Employers \_\_\_\_ conduct regular performance reviews. | All contractors \_\_\_\_ comply with on-site safety regulations. | You \_\_\_\_ read the terms and conditions before accepting.

| Strong Deduction | Past Modal | Formal Possibility / Permission | Duty / Recommendation |
|------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| _____            | _____      | _____                           | _____                 |
| _____            | _____      | _____                           | _____                 |
| _____            | _____      | _____                           | _____                 |

## Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation (8 points)

Choose the correct modal from the brackets.

**A:** The system flagged an anomaly last night. \_\_\_\_ have been a software update — they ran one at midnight.

( must / can't / ought to )

**B:** That \_\_\_\_ be it — updates don't usually trigger that kind of flag.

( can't / must / may )

**A:** Someone \_\_\_\_ notified the team before making changes to a live system.

( should have / could have / would have )

**B:** Agreed. We \_\_\_\_ prevented this with a proper change management process.

( could have / should have / would have )

**A:** I \_\_\_\_ escalated it immediately if I'd seen the alert.

( would have / should have / ought to )

**B:** The whole team \_\_\_\_ be briefed on the new protocol before the end of the week.

( ought to / must / may )

### Exercise 1 — True or False?

1. "Must" for deduction is based on evidence the speaker can observe or infer.  
✓ True
2. "Can't" for deduction means the speaker thinks something is unlikely but possible.  
✓ False
3. "Could have" refers to something that was possible in the past but did not happen.  
✓ True
4. "Should have" expresses satisfaction with a past decision.  
✓ False
5. "Ought to" is always followed by a base verb with "to".  
✓ True
6. "May" is typically more informal than "might".  
✓ False
7. "Would have" describes what would have occurred under different past circumstances.  
✓ True
8. "Ought to have" + past participle means something was expected but did not happen.  
✓ True

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### Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice

1. The heating is on full — someone \_\_\_\_ have left it running overnight.  
✓ must
2. This \_\_\_\_ be his signature — he always uses block capitals.  
✓ can't
3. They \_\_\_\_ circulated the minutes sooner — everyone was confused about the decisions.  
✓ should have
4. The results \_\_\_\_ point to a wider issue across the whole department.  
✓ may
5. We \_\_\_\_ taken the coast road — it would have been much quicker.  
✓ could have
6. Employers \_\_\_\_ provide clear written contracts to all staff from day one.

✓ **ought to**

7. I \_\_\_\_ joined the project if I had known it was still running.

✓ **would have**

8. Changes to the schedule \_\_\_\_ be communicated to delegates in advance.

✓ **ought to**

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### Exercise 3 — Matching

1. There's a light on in the attic — someone must be up there.

✓ **H — A conclusion the speaker feels certain about based on visible evidence.**

2. This can't be the invoice — the amounts don't match at all.

✓ **A — The speaker is almost certain the item in question is incorrect or impossible.**

3. The report should have been submitted two weeks ago.

✓ **C — Something was expected but failed to happen — the speaker is expressing criticism.**

4. You could have mentioned this in the initial briefing.

✓ **F — The information existed but was not shared — an unrealised past opportunity.**

5. She would have taken the position if the relocation hadn't been required.

✓ **G — A past outcome that was prevented by a different circumstance.**

6. The audit findings may prompt a full review of procedures.

✓ **E — A formal possibility — no firm conclusion has been reached yet.**

7. All parties ought to respect the terms of the original agreement.

✓ **D — A moral expectation — this is what the speaker believes should happen.**

8. Delays may occur during peak periods.

✓ **B — A possibility stated in formal or official language.**

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### Exercise 4 — Gap Fill

1. He's been silent for three days — \_\_\_\_ know something we don't.

✓ **he must**

2. These \_\_\_\_ be the original files — they're dated last year.

✓ **can't**

3. Someone \_\_\_\_ secured the building before the storm — the roof is badly damaged.

✓ **should have**

4. The data \_\_\_\_ reveal patterns not visible in smaller samples.

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6. Landlords \_\_\_\_ maintain properties to a safe and habitable standard.  
✓ ought to
7. She \_\_\_\_ applied earlier if she'd known the deadline was being brought forward.  
✓ would have
8. The investigation \_\_\_\_ take several months to complete.  
✓ may
- 

### Exercise 5 — Word Order

1. ✓ He must be on his way — his coat is gone
  2. ✓ That can't be her handwriting — she's left-handed
  3. ✓ We should have been told about this earlier
  4. ✓ We could have avoided the conflict entirely
  5. ✓ I would have spoken up if I'd been asked
  6. ✓ Contracts ought to be reviewed annually
  7. ✓ The findings may trigger a policy change
  8. ✓ The invoice ought to have been sent sooner
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### Exercise 6 — Word Sort

#### Strong Deduction:

- ✓ The window is open — someone \_\_\_\_ have been in here recently.
- ✓ That \_\_\_\_ be the right version — this one has the old logo.
- ✓ He \_\_\_\_ be the new director — he looks far too young.

#### Past Modal:

- ✓ We \_\_\_\_ flagged the risk earlier — it was visible in the data.
- ✓ She \_\_\_\_ submitted her application online instead of by post.
- ✓ They \_\_\_\_ consulted us before going ahead with the changes.

#### Formal Possibility / Permission:

- ✓ The tribunal \_\_\_\_ request additional documentation.
- ✓ The report \_\_\_\_ be made available to the public in due course.
- ✓ Further guidance \_\_\_\_ follow once the review is complete.

#### Duty / Recommendation:

- ✓ Employers \_\_\_\_ conduct regular performance reviews.

✓ All contractors \_\_\_ comply with on-site safety regulations.

✓ You \_\_\_ read the terms and conditions before accepting.

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### Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation

1. A: The system flagged an anomaly last night. \_\_\_ have been a software update — they ran one at midnight.

✓ must

2. B: That \_\_\_ be it — updates don't usually trigger that kind of flag.

✓ can't

3. A: Someone \_\_\_ notified the team before making changes to a live system.

✓ should have

4. B: Agreed. We \_\_\_ prevented this with a proper change management process.

✓ could have

5. A: I \_\_\_ escalated it immediately if I'd seen the alert.

✓ would have

6. B: The whole team \_\_\_ be briefed on the new protocol before the end of the week.

✓ ought to