

- 16 Which alternatives are correct? Sometimes only one alternative is correct, and sometimes two of the alternatives are possible.
- 1 'What time will you be home tonight?' 'I'm not sure. I A or B late.'  
A may be B might be C can be (*both A and B are correct*)
  - 2 I can't find the theatre tickets. They ..... out of my pocket.  
A must have fallen B should have fallen C had to fall
  - 3 Somebody ran in front of the car as I was driving. Fortunately I ..... just in time.  
A could stop B could have stopped C managed to stop
  - 4 We've got plenty of time. We ..... yet.  
A mustn't leave B needn't leave C don't need to leave
  - 5 I ..... out but I didn't feel like it, so I stayed at home.  
A could go B could have gone C must have gone
  - 6 I'm sorry I ..... come to your party last week.  
A couldn't come B couldn't have come C wasn't able to come
  - 7 'What do you think of my theory?' 'I'm not sure. You ..... right.'  
A could be B must be C might be
  - 8 I couldn't wait for you any longer. I ....., and so I went.  
A must go B must have gone C had to go
  - 9 'Do you know where Liz is?' 'No. I suppose she ..... shopping.'  
A should have gone B may have gone C could have gone
  - 10 At first they didn't believe me when I told them what had happened, but in the end I ..... them that I was telling the truth.  
A was able to convince B managed to convince C could convince
  - 11 I promised I'd phone Gary this evening. I .....  
A mustn't forget B needn't forget C don't have to forget
  - 12 Why did you leave without me? You ..... for me.  
A must have waited B had to wait C should have waited
  - 13 Lisa phoned me and suggested ..... lunch together.  
A we have B we should have C to have
  - 14 You look nice in that jacket, but you hardly ever wear it. .... it more often.  
A You'd better wear B You should wear C You ought to wear
  - 15 Shall I buy a car? What's your advice? What ..... ?  
A will you do B would you do C shall you do

17 Make sentences from the words in brackets.

- 1 Don't phone them now. (they might / have / lunch)  
They might be having lunch.
- 2 I ate too much. Now I feel sick. (I shouldn't / eat / so much)  
I shouldn't have eaten so much.
- 3 I wonder why Tom didn't phone me. (he must / forget)
- 4 Why did you go home so early? (you needn't / go / home so early)
- 5 You've signed the contract. (it / can't / change / now)
- 6 'What's Linda doing?' 'I'm not sure.' (she may / watch / television)
- 7 Laura was standing outside the cinema. (she must / wait / for somebody)
- 8 He was in prison at the time that the crime was committed. (he couldn't / do / it)
- 9 Why weren't you here earlier? (you ought / be / here earlier)
- 10 Why didn't you ask me to help you? (I would / help / you)
- 11 I'm surprised you weren't told that the road was dangerous. (you should / warn / about it)
- 12 Gary was in a strange mood yesterday. (he might not / feel / very well)

Additional exercises

18 Complete B's sentences using can/could/might/must/should/would + the verb in brackets. In some sentences you need to use have: must have ... / should have ... etc. In some sentences you need the negative (can't/couldn't etc.).

- 1 A: I'm hungry.  
B: But you've just had lunch. You can't be hungry already. (be)
- 2 A: I haven't seen our neighbours for ages.  
B: No. They must have gone away. (go)
- 3 A: What's the weather like? Is it raining?  
B: Not at the moment, but it ..... later. (rain)
- 4 A: Where has Julia gone?  
B: I'm not sure. She ..... to the bank. (go)
- 5 A: I didn't see you at Michael's party last week.  
B: No, I had to work that night, so I ..... (go)
- 6 A: I saw you at Michael's party last week.  
B: No, you ..... me. I didn't go to Michael's party. (see)
- 7 A: What time will we get to Sue's house?  
B: Well, it takes about one and a half hours, so if we leave at 3 o'clock, we ..... there by 4.30. (get)
- 8 A: When was the last time you saw Bill?  
B: Years ago. I ..... him if I saw him now. (recognise)
- 9 A: Did you hear the explosion?  
B: What explosion?  
A: There was a loud explosion about an hour ago. You ..... it. (hear)
- 10 A: We weren't sure which way to go. In the end we turned right.  
B: You went the wrong way. You ..... left. (turn)

KEY

16

- 2 A
- 3 C
- 4 B or C
- 5 B
- 6 A or C
- 7 A or C
- 8 C
- 9 B or C
- 10 A or B
- 11 A
- 12 C
- 13 A or B
- 14 B or C
- 15 B

17

- 3 He must have forgotten.
- 4 You needn't have gone home so early.
- 5 It can't be changed now.
- 6 She may be watching television.
- 7 She must have been waiting for somebody.
- 8 He couldn't have done it.
- 9 You ought to have been here earlier.
- 10 I would have helped you.
- 11 You should have been warned about it.
- 12 He might not have been feeling very well. or  
He might not have felt ...

18

- 3 could rain / might rain
- 4 might have gone / could have gone
- 5 couldn't go
- 6 couldn't have seen / can't have seen
- 7 should get
- 8 wouldn't recognise / might not recognise
- 9 must have heard
- 10 should have turned