

Activity

1. You may listen to the teacher (probability) - Must/May
2. You mustn't part here (Must/Mustn't)
3. People don't have to waste food. (obligation) - Don't have to/may not
4. Might It snow tomorrow? (probability) - Might/Should
5. I shall have a coffee, please? (invitation)
6. You should do more exercise (suggestion)
7. You mustn't drink alcohol (Prohibition)
8. You can play the guitar? (ability)
9. Would you like to go by train (invitation)

10. I may play tennis tomorrow

MODALS OF ABILITY

1. Could you swim when you were 10?

2. We couldn't get to the meeting on time. The train was delayed by one hour yesterday because of the delay.

3. He can give the party on time. He was very pleased after missing the train, so he was very pleased.

4. He's amazing he can speak five languages including Chinese.

5. I couldn't drive a car until I was 24. When I moved to the countryside, I had to learn to drive.



1 Read the sentences. Write should or shouldn't.

- a If it's rainy you shouldn't take an umbrella.
- b Tom shouldn't eat so many lollipops. It's bad for his teeth.
- c 1. should I drink hot tea if I have a sore throat?
2. Yes, you should.
- d They have a test tomorrow. They shouldn't go to the cinema
should stay at home and study!
- e Children should eat lots of vegetables but they shouldn't eat lots of sweets.
- f I have a party tonight. What should I wear? A dress or a pair of trousers?
- g I have a party tonight. What should I wear? A dress or a pair of trousers?



1 Complete the sentences below by using 'may (not)' and 'might (not)' to describe possibility. See the example.

There are some dark clouds in the sky. (may)

It may rain.

It's nine-thirty and Jack feels tired. (might)

He might sleep early

My class starts soon, but I'm not sure where the classroom is. (may not)

I may not be at time.

e Kelly and Jenny are friends, but they live in different cities. They are both traveling to Washington this summer. (may)

She might buy some shoes

f I should go to work today, but I feel a little sick. (might not)

I might go to the work

2 Complete the sentences by choosing the best answers.

1. My family and I ... travel to Montreal next summer.

- a** might
- b** might be

2. John isn't in class today. I think he ... sick.

- a** might
- b** might be

3. I ... at work tomorrow morning because I have a bad cold.

- a** may be
- b** may not be

4. We ... have a grammar exam next week. Let's study!

- a** may be
- b** may not be

5. There's no sound coming from the radio. It ... broken.

- a** might
- b** might be

6. Many scientists think that there ... life on other planets.

- a** may
- b** may be

- c My sister couldn't swim last year, but now she can.
- d They could go shopping yesterday because the store was closed.
- e A: could you read when you were four years old? B: Yes, I could.
- f Ellie can ride a bicycle. She rides it to school every day.
- g I'm very tired, so I can go out to the park to play.
- h A: could you see the moon last night? B: No, I could.
- i When can I talk to you about the company report?
- j Most dinosaurs walked on land, but some could fly or even swim.
- k Excuse me, I can hear you right now. The music is too loud.
- l I could drive a truck when I was only sixteen years old.
- m Douglas hit the tree because he can stop his car.

200 2

Choose the correct word:

- a Can / Can't I use your calculator, please?
- b Could / Couldn't I have a cup of tea, please?
- c You can / can't borrow my calculator. I need it.
- d Marc can / couldn't walk at the age of one.
- e He could / can speak French when he was fourteen.
- f Beethoven could / can play the piano.
- g Could / Couldn't I go to the theatre with Mary?
- h Can / Can't I go to the toilet please?
- i When I was 10, I couldn't / can't speak English.

Mercury in Fish

Mercury is a highly toxic metal found in neon signs, fluorescent lights, older thermometers, and certain kinds of telescopes. Although scientists today understand that mercury is extremely poisonous, and so it is found in only a small number of products, in the past mercury was used in many common household objects. Mirrors, hats, photography equipment, and even several kinds of medicines used to contain various levels of mercury. Prolonged contact with mercury can be very dangerous for human beings. Because we now know how toxic mercury is, chemists and other people who work with mercury are careful to limit their exposure to it. However, while most household objects no longer contain mercury, and most people are not exposed to it at their jobs, there is still a significant amount of mercury in something that many people eat on a regular basis: fish.

The mercury we might find in a can of tuna is most likely an indirect result of the coal industry. Mercury, which is naturally found in coal, is released into the air when coal is burned. As coal is transformed into energy, mercury vapor enters the atmosphere, becomes trapped in the clouds, and then returns to the lakes, rivers, and oceans in the form of rain. This mercury-laced rain can be carried great distances from the original coal plant. Scientists have found mercury in fish from nearly 300 streams across the country, even in bodies of water that are located hundreds of miles from coal plants.

Mercury accumulates in certain kinds of fish through a process called biomagnification. To understand bio magnification, one must first understand the food chain. The ocean's food chain starts with algae, sea plants that get their nutrients from the sun. The algae are then eaten by small sea creatures, such as shrimp. Small fish, like herring, then eat these shrimp. Larger fish, like trout, eat the herring. Even larger fish, like albacore tuna, then eat the trout. A human being might then eat the albacore tuna. Biomagnification occurs when a substance enters the food chain in small amounts at the very bottom and then increases in concentration in animals higher up on the food chain. In this example, algae absorb mercury in the seawater. Shrimp eat the mercury-filled algae, and then the shrimp are eaten by herring, which are eaten by trout, which are eaten by albacore tuna.

Once a fish eats another creature containing mercury, the mercury does not leave that fish's body, but instead it is stored in fat. Therefore, the mercury continually accumulates as more mercury-contaminated fish are eaten. There may not be very much mercury in any one of the creatures at the lower levels of the food chain, like the shrimp or the herring, for example. Yet because the tuna eats so many of the mercury-contaminated fish, the mercury concentration in the tuna's body is much higher than it is in the herring's body.

Despite the toxicity of mercury and the widespread nature of fish contamination, there is no need for the public to be overly apprehensive. Many popular fish, such as salmon, catfish, shrimp, or tilapia, are generally safe to eat. Other fish, especially tuna and grouper, should only be eaten in moderation. Young children and pregnant women should be especially cautious about how many servings of mercury-contaminated fish they have per week.



It is recommended that people in these groups not eat more than 2 servings of mercury-contaminated fish per week. Fish with the highest levels of mercury include shark, swordfish, and king mackerel. All people should avoid eating large amounts of these kinds of fish, and no one should eat these fish more frequently than once a month.

- 1 The primary purpose of the passage is to
 - a warn people who work at coal plants about the dangers of mercury
 - b inform people about the presence of mercury in edible fish
 - c familiarize people with the history of mercury in industrial products
 - d instruct people about the process of biomagnification
- 2 Based on information in paragraph 1, it can be inferred that only older thermometers contain mercury because
 - a older thermometers do not work as well as newer models
 - b newer thermometers were made using coal power; older thermometers were made before coal power was in widespread use
 - c thermometers with mercury were made before people understood how dangerous mercury is
 - d thermometers made in earlier times used older technology
- 3 In the final paragraph, the author argues that
 - a it is not safe to eat any seafood
 - b only children and pregnant women must be cautious about the fish they consume
 - c people must think carefully about what kinds and amounts of fish they are eating
 - d it is only safe to eat the most popular varieties of fish

4 Using your own words, explain the concept of biomagnification.

The concentration of the product in the consuming organism is greater than the production in the consumed organism

vocabulary

- Poisonous: Poisonables
- How hold: Fallar
- Exposure: Exposición
- However: como
- Amount: monto
- Trapped: Atrapado
- Bodies: cuerpos
- Shrine: capilla
- Algal
- Alacoro
- Seawater: agua de mar
- Apprehensive: aprensivo