ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

May or Might Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

English Vocabulary Tests · 20 questions · Online test and questions PDF:
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Explanations

1. ___ I open the window, please? It's very warm in here.
✔ **C) May**
May I …? is the polite way to ask permission. Does, Am and Has can't start this question.

2. The coach said the match ___ be cancelled because of the snow, and it was.
✔ **B) might**
Reported speech after said, about the past: may changes to might.

3. In careful writing: if I had more free time, I ___ learn to play the guitar.
✔ **A) might**
An imagined situation with if + past needs might (or would), not will. Dictionaries record may where might would be expected, but careful writers use might.

4. If you had told me earlier, I ___ have helped you.
✔ **C) might**
You didn't tell me, so I didn't help. For something that didn't happen, careful writers use might have.

5. Which sentence is correct?
✔ **B) She might come with us later.**
A modal verb takes a base verb with no to and never adds -s.

6. The last train has gone, so we might ___ well get a taxi.
✔ **D) as**
Might as well is a fixed phrase meaning there is no better choice.

7. ___ you both have a long and happy life together.
✔ **A) May**
May at the start of a sentence can express a formal wish, often at weddings or in cards.

8. It's a school rule: students ___ not use their phones during the exam.
✔ **D) may**
Here may not means they are not allowed to. Might not would only mean perhaps not, which doesn't fit a rule.

9. I can't find my glasses. I ___ have left them on the bus, but I'm not sure.
✔ **B) may**
We don't know yet, so may have (or might have) is right. Must have would mean you are sure.

10. ___ we can go to the park after lunch.
✔ **A) Maybe**
Maybe, one word, means perhaps. May be is a verb: We may be able to go.

11. He ___ be young, but he plays chess better than his teacher.
✔ **D) may**
May with but admits one point before making another: we accept that he is young.

12. The new film ___ well be the best of the year.
✔ **A) may**
May well (or might well) means quite likely.

13. She pushed the heavy door with all her ___.
✔ **C) might**
Might as a noun means power or strength: with all your might.

14. Be careful on that ladder! You ___ have fallen.
✔ **B) might**
You didn't fall, so we use might have for this near miss. Must have would mean you are sure you did fall.

15. ___ I suggest a short break before we carry on?
✔ **C) Might**
Might I suggest …? is a very polite, formal way of making a suggestion, common in British English.

16. You ___ have warned me the shop was shut! I walked all the way there for nothing.
✔ **D) might**
You might have + past participle is a complaint that someone didn't do something. Here they didn't warn me.

17. Come what ___, I'm going to finish this marathon.
✔ **B) may**
Come what may is a fixed phrase meaning whatever happens.

18. Knock quietly. The baby ___ sleeping.
✔ **C) might be**
For something possibly happening now, use might (or may) + be + -ing. Maybe is an adverb, so the sentence would have no verb.

19. Our team has won six games in a row. Long ___ it continue!
✔ **C) may**
Long may it continue is a fixed wish. Wishes like this use may.

20. The tickets are expensive. Be that as it ___, we still want to go.
✔ **B) may**
Be that as it may is a formal phrase meaning even so.