ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

Maybe or May Be Quiz: 20 Questions with Answers

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

1. ___ we could go to the beach on Saturday.
✔ **B) Maybe**
Maybe means perhaps, and the sentence already has its verb (could go). Perhaps we could go works too.

2. The library ___ closed on Sundays.
✔ **D) may be**
The sentence needs a verb: the library might be closed. So we write the two words may be.

3. “Are you coming to the party?” “___. I haven’t decided yet.”
✔ **D) Maybe**
A one-word answer is always the adverb maybe.

4. You ___ right, but I’d like to check the map.
✔ **C) may be**
You might be right: may be is the verb here. Might right and may right have no be.

5. We’ll finish the job tomorrow, ___.
✔ **A) maybe**
In speech, maybe can also come at the end of a sentence. May be, might and may need a subject before them and cannot end the sentence here.

6. Which sentence is correct?
✔ **C) It may be too late to buy tickets.**
It might be too late works, so we need the verb may be. Maybe on its own can’t be the verb.

7. “Will it rain tomorrow?” “Maybe ___.”
✔ **B) not**
Maybe not is the short answer when you think something perhaps won’t happen.

8. The answers ___ at the back of the book.
✔ **A) may be**
The answers might be at the back: may be is the verb. May are is not English.

9. Which word means the same as maybe but can sound more formal?
✔ **C) perhaps**
Perhaps means the same as maybe and is more usual in careful writing.

10. The children ___ playing in the garden, so look there first.
✔ **C) may be**
May be + -ing talks about something that is possibly happening now. Might would need be: might be playing.

11. “Do you think she’ll win?” “Maybe ___. She’s been training hard.”
✔ **D) so**
Maybe so means perhaps that is true. It is the partner of maybe not.

12. That ___ true, but it doesn’t explain why you were late.
✔ **A) may be**
That may be true, but ... agrees a little before disagreeing. It needs the verb may be.

13. We could ___ take the train instead of driving.
✔ **A) maybe**
Could take is already the verb, so the word in the middle is the adverb maybe.

14. The museum ___ able to lend us some old maps.
✔ **B) may be**
May be able to means it is possible that it can. Can be able is not used.

15. There are too many ___ in this plan: we need firm answers.
✔ **B) maybes**
Here maybe is an informal noun meaning an uncertain answer or chance. It is one word, and its plural is maybes.

16. Tickets ___ bought online or at the door.
✔ **C) may be**
May be + past participle (bought) is the verb: tickets might be bought. Maybe on its own cannot be the verb.

17. ___ it’s just me, but this room feels very cold.
✔ **D) Maybe**
Maybe it’s just me is a polite way to say something. Perhaps fits, and it’s is already the verb.

18. “Can I go out to play?” “___ later, after your homework.”
✔ **B) Maybe**
In a short answer like Maybe later, we always use the one-word adverb.

19. Choose the correct sentence about phoning the shop.
✔ **B) Maybe it’s better to phone the shop first.**
Maybe is only an adverb, so the sentence still needs a subject and a verb: it’s. It may be better would also be correct.

20. How do you spell the adverb that means perhaps?
✔ **C) maybe**
The adverb is one word: maybe. A hyphen is not standard.