

School of Tomorrow

Addis Ababa

English: Grade 9

Lesson 2

Probability and Possibility

Possibility describes something that might occur, the chance that something might happen.

We use may, might, can and could to say something is possible but not certain.

For example;

- i) They may come by car. (There is a chance of them coming by a car.)
- ii) She might be home but call to confirm. (She is probably at home. I'm not sure.)

Can is used to make general statements. That is: You can easily get cold in this weather.

We use may have, might have, or could have to make guesses about the past.

Examples;

- i) They may have got lost.
- ii) They could have been arrested by the police.

Could is used for general statements about the past.

For **impossibility**, we can use couldn't, might not, may not.

- He couldn't have done the murder.

HOMEWORK

I Use suitable modal verbs that express **Possibility** to complete the following.

- i) She _____ have died in that fire but the fire department saved her.
- ii) I _____ have you arrested for impersonation but I don't have my gun.
- iii) There is a chance that it _____ rain tomorrow but if it doesn't rain, we _____ play football in case the other team shows up.
- iv) I _____ be coming down with cholera. I _____ have got the infection from the bad food I ate at the party.
- v) Years to come, drones _____ become the major source of all human needs.

II Write five sentences expressing probable situations in the future using probability and possibility modals (5 points)