1 Complete the sentences with these modals and the infinitive or be + -ing form of the verbs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>can’t</th>
<th>could</th>
<th>may not</th>
<th>might</th>
<th>must</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

1 The children look so miserable. They ____________ can’t be having ____________ (have) a good time.
2 Look at those birds. Do you think they _______________ (migrate) to warmer places?
3 That woman keeps going through the things in her bag. She ________________ (look) for something.
4 Keiko is so young, but she plays the violin beautifully. She ________________ (practise) for hours every day.
5 I’m convinced Collin’s story is absolutely true. It ________________ (be) a hoax.
6 I’m not sure, but the turtles ________________ (lay) their eggs in the sand now. Let’s not get too close.
7 Mr Henson ________________ (be) available right now as he’s very busy.

2 Choose the correct option (a or b) that best explains the meaning of the sentence.

1 It must have been Philip who phoned.
   a Someone phoned – I’m sure it was Philip.
   b Philip was supposed to phone, but he didn’t.
2 The strange light we saw in the sky can’t have been man-made.
   a The light we saw was certainly not caused naturally.
   b The light we saw was not caused by something created by humans.
3 That may not have been Amelia Earhart’s hair.
   a It’s possible it was somebody else’s hair.
   b We’re sure it wasn’t Amelia Earhart’s hair.
4 That tiny spider must have created this huge web.
   a It’s a possibility.
   b There’s no other explanation for it.
5 Paul might have made the wrong assumption.
   a It’s possible that Paul was mistaken.
   b Paul was certainly mistaken.
6 These drawings couldn’t have been the work of local people.
   a We can be quite sure that local people didn’t create them.
   b Perhaps local people created them, but we aren’t sure if they could.

3 The modals in bold are wrong. Write the correct modals. Sometimes, more than one answer is possible.

1 Although they aren’t sure, experts believe African killer bees **must** be taking over European honey bee hives.
   ____________ could / might / may
2 She **mustn’t** be sleeping. I spoke to her on the phone only minutes ago.
   __________________________
3 You’d better hurry! You **must** be late if you don’t leave immediately.
   __________________________
4 Tomorrow’s picnic **can’t** be cancelled. It all depends on the weather.
   __________________________
5 Those animals **could** be predators. Look how they’re chasing the zebra!
   __________________________
6 This phenomenon **must** be properly explained and will always remain a mystery.
   __________________________
Choose the correct option (a, b or c) to complete the sentences.

1. Her story seems unlikely, but she __________ the truth.
   a. can’t be telling
   b. mustn’t tell
   c. might be telling

2. You’d better stay indoors. The weather forecast says there __________ be a storm later.
   a. might not
   b. could
   c. must

3. You haven’t got any mosquito bites, but I’m covered in them. That __________ just be a coincidence!
   a. must
   b. may
   c. can’t

4. You __________ my sister in town today. She’s in France.
   a. might not have seen
   b. mustn’t have seen
   c. couldn’t have seen

5. __________ those DNA samples perhaps prove our theory?
   a. Could
   b. May
   c. Must

6. Jen’s not in. She __________ her dog for a walk in the park.
   a. can’t have taken
   b. may take
   c. may have taken

Look at the first sentence in each pair. Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning. Use the words in bold.

1. It’s not possible that they were mistaken. can’t
   They __________ mistaken.
   a. can’t have been

2. He was lucky he didn’t get lost. could
   He __________.
   a. could have been

3. Perhaps these statues were sacred. may
   These statues __________ sacred.
   a. may be

4. It’s impossible that the bone wasn’t human. can’t
   The bone __________ human.
   a. can be

5. I’m sure someone was in the room earlier. must
   Someone __________ in the room earlier.
   a. must be

6. It isn’t certain that humans lived here. might not
   Humans __________ here.
   a. might not be