GRAMMAR WORKSHEET
MODALS OF PROBABILITY with ‘be’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>It</th>
<th>must be</th>
<th>must be = 95% sure something is possible</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>might be</td>
<td>might be = maybe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>could be</td>
<td>could be = maybe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>may be</td>
<td>may be = maybe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>can’t be</td>
<td>can’t be = 95% sure something is NOT possible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a museum sign.  
a school sign.  
a parking sign.  
a hospital sign.  
a sign for a library.

• Write sentences about the signs / symbols below. Use modals of probability.

1. _____________________________________________________________________
2. _____________________________________________________________________
3. _____________________________________________________________________
4. _____________________________________________________________________
5. _____________________________________________________________________
6. _____________________________________________________________________

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# Grammar Focus

**Modals of Probability**

**Level**  Upper Intermediate (CEFR B2)

## Answer Key

Answers will vary, but below are some possibilities (the words highlighted in **green** are the **real places** represented by the symbols):

1. It **might be** at a **metro / railway** sign.
2. It **could be** a **hotel** sign.
3. It **must be** a **restaurant** sign.
4. It **might be** a **warehouse** sign.
5. It **must be** an **airport** sign.
6. It **could be** a sign for a **picnic** site.

**NOTE:** We use the ‘be’ verb with …

1) **Nouns**  Example: “It **might be** a metro sign.”
2) **Verbs** + ‘ing’  Example: “She **might be** sleeping.”
3) **Adjectives**  Example: “He **could be** sick.”
4) **Prepositions**  Example: “It can’t be **in** the kitchen.”

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