



Answers

1. b) must be
2. c) might be
3. b) were
4. d) can't be
5. b) should be
6. b) could be
7. d) have been
8. d) was
9. c) must be
10. c) might be
11. a) will be
12. d) must be
13. a) had been
14. c) won't be
15. d) can't be
16. a) have been
17. b) should be
18. a) was
19. c) could be
20. a) must be



Explanations

1. “must be” (b)

The beeping router is strong evidence, so we use 'must be' to express a logical deduction. There must be a problem with the internet.

2. “might be” (c)

'I'm not sure' shows uncertainty. 'Might be' expresses possibility without certainty. There might be some money in the drawer.

3. “were” (b)

'Yesterday' is past tense and 'a lot of people' is plural, so we use 'were'. There were a lot of people at the beach yesterday.

4. “can't be” (d)

The lights being off is strong evidence that nobody is there. 'Can't be' expresses a logical conclusion that something is impossible. There can't be anyone in the office.

5. “should be” (b)

'People need green spaces' expresses an opinion about what is right or necessary. 'Should be' gives advice or a recommendation. There should be more public parks.

6. “could be” (b)

'I'm not certain yet' shows the speaker is unsure. 'Could be' expresses possibility, similar to 'might be'. There could be a flight delay.

7. “have been” (d)

'Since the storm' connects a past event to the present. 'Several power cuts' is plural → present perfect 'have been'.

8. “was” (d)

'I checked' and 'it was a false alarm' are both past tense. The speaker is reporting what they found. Past simple 'was' is correct.

9. “must be” (c)

The speaker is confident a solution exists ('we just need more time'). 'Must be' expresses strong belief or logical certainty. There must be a solution.

10. “might be” (c)

The speaker is uncertain and asks someone to verify. 'Might be' expresses possibility. There might be a pharmacy near here.

11. “will be” (a)

'Next Saturday' is future tense. 'Will be' describes a future event. There will be over 200 guests at the wedding.

12. “must be” (d)

A strange noise is clear evidence of a problem. 'Must be' expresses a strong logical deduction based on evidence.

13. “had been” (a)

'Before the hospital was built' refers to a time before a past event. Past perfect 'had been' is needed.

14. “won't be” (c)

'Some people will have to stand' tells us this is about the future. 'Won't be' is the negative future. There won't be enough chairs.

15. “can't be” (d)

'Everything looks correct' is evidence that no mistake exists. 'Can't be' expresses impossibility based on evidence.

16. “have been” (a)

'Recently' links the past to the present moment. 'Changes' is plural → present perfect 'have been'.

17. “should be” (b)

'Students waste too much time' gives a reason for a recommendation. 'Should be' expresses what the speaker thinks is the right thing. There should be stricter rules.

18. “was” (a)

'I went there last year and it was wonderful' describes a specific completed past experience. Past simple 'was' is correct. (Note: the restaurant may or may not still exist — the speaker is recalling a past visit.)

19. “could be” (c)

'We haven't found proof yet' shows the speaker considers it possible but unconfirmed. 'Could be' expresses theoretical possibility.

20. “must be” (a)

The long queue is strong visual evidence. 'Must be' expresses a confident deduction. There must be a sale going on.