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English In A Minute

Modals of deduction



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This is not a word-for-word transcript

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Hi, everyone! Welcome back to English In A Minute. We're going to look at **how to use modal verbs when making a deduction** – that's when we make guesses about what is happening. Let's look at some examples.

Use **must** when you are certain or almost certain that something is true. For example: **Phil's hair is wet – it must be rainy.**

Use **can't** to say when you are certain something is not true. For example: **Phil's hair is wet – it can't be sunny.**

We can use **might**, **may** or **could** to talk about possibility. Let's look at some examples. Sam is late for work. We don't know why Sam is late, but we can make a guess. For example: **Her car could be broken.** Another possibility is: **She might still be asleep.** One final possibility now: **There may be a lot of traffic.**

Well, it **must** be time to finish now. Thanks for joining us. Bye!