Modals of probability theory quiz

1: What modals do we use to talk about probability?

    a) Will / should / shall
    b) Could / may / might
    c) Must / can / will

2: Which modals do we use in the negative to talk about probability?

    a) May not / might not
    b) May not / could not
    c) Might not / could not

3: Which modal don't we usually use in normal questions about probability?

    a) Could.
    b) May.
    c) Might.

4: What does 'may well' mean?

    a) It means exactly the same as 'may'.
    b) It means the probability is quite weak.
    c) It means the probability is quite strong.

5: When do we use the continuous infinitive with may / might / could for probability?

    a) For things happening now and to avoid ambiguity.
    b) To avoid ambiguity and to make the probability weaker.
    c) For things happening now and to make the probability stronger.

6: What do we often add when we use 'may / might / could' to talk about the future?

    a) A time expression.
    b) A past participle.
    c) An adverb.

7: What can we use to talk about probability in a similar way to the future perfect tense?

    a) May (not) / might (not) / could + infinitive.
    b) May (not) / might (not) / could + be + verb-ing.
    c) May (not) / might (not) / could + have + past participle.

8: How do we talk about probability in the past?

    a) May (not) / might (not) / could + infinitive.
    b) May (not) / might (not) / could + have + past participle.
    c) May (not) / might (not) / could + be + verb-ing.

9: Can we use 'may (not) / might (not) / could + have + past participle' to talk about something that maybe happened in the past and has a result in the present?

    a) Yes, it works like the present perfect.
    b) No,
    c) Yes, but only if we are very sure that the thing happened.

10: Which of these can we use 'may (not) / might (not) / could + have + past participle' to talk about?

    a) Things that we know didn't happen in the past, but were possible.
    b) Things that definitely happened in the past.
    c) Things that are maybe happening now.

11: What do we use to talk about something that was maybe in progress at a point in the past?

    a) May (not) / might (not) / could + infinitive.
    b) May (not) / might (not) / could + be + verb-ing.
    c) May (not) / might (not) / could + have + been + verb-ing.

Answers to modals of probability theory quiz

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