Error Correction Answers

Look at each sentence. They are all incorrect. Explain why the sentence is incorrect and write the correct sentence in the spaces provided.

1) They speak fluent French, they might be from France.

EXPLANATION

We need a strong modal verb of possibility here - must.

CORRECT SENTENCE

They speak fluent French, they must be from France.

2) I don't know why she's not in the meeting. She must be unwell.

EXPLANATION

We have no idea why the person is not in the meeting, so we need a weaker modal of possibility.

CORRECT SENTENCE

I don't know why she's not in the meeting. She might/may/could be unwell.

3) It's completely impossible to get 100%. That might be right!

EXPLANATION

Complete impossibility requires can't.

CORRECT SENTENCE

It's completely impossible to get 100%. That can't be right!



4) She is absolutely soaking wet. It can't be raining outside.

EXPLANATION

We need a verb with strong possibility - must.

CORRECT SENTENCE

She is absolutely soaking wet. It must be raining outside.

5) At the moment it's 50-50. I must pass the exam.

EXPLANATION

Possibility of 50-50 requires might, may or could.

CORRECT SENTENCE

At the moment it's 50-50. I might/may/could pass the exam.

6) She's been smiling all day and singing around the house. She may be so happy to have you back home.

EXPLANATION

We need a verb of very strong possibility - will/ must.

CORRECT SENTENCE

She's been smiling all day and singing around the house. She must/will be so happy to have you back home.

7) The train could arrive in the next few minutes, as scheduled.

EXPLANATION

A scheduled arrival requires stronger possibility than could - should.

CORRECT SENTENCE

The train should arrive in the next few minutes, as scheduled.

