Present Modal Verbs of Deduction and Probability Exercise

Check through the different uses.

<table>
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<th>TYPE</th>
<th>USE</th>
<th>MODAL VERBS</th>
<th>EXAMPLE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>to express possibilities for the future</td>
<td>COULD, MAY, MIGHT</td>
<td>It may rain tomorrow.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>to express certainty</td>
<td>CAN'T, COULDN'T, MUST</td>
<td>She can't be Irish.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>for possible explanations</td>
<td>COULD, MAY, MIGHT</td>
<td>She could be Scottish.</td>
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A Look at the following phrases and write in which type you think they are. Then fill the gaps.

**TYPE**

1. □ They (may/must) be away for the weekend but I'm not sure.
2. □ He (can/could) be French, judging by his accent.
3. □ They (can't/may) still be out!
4. □ With luck, tomorrow (can't/could) be a sunny day.
5. □ You (can/might) be right but I'm going to check anyway.
6. □ The exam (can't/might) be easy. You never know.
7. □ It (may/can't) be true about a sauropod dinosaur living in Lake Telé in the Congo. It's impossible.
8. □ Dave reckons she's from The States but I think she (can't/might) be from Scandinavia.
9. □ I (can't/might) go to the party but I'm not sure yet.
10. □ This (must/could) be the right answer but we'll have to check with your teacher to make sure.
11. □ She (can't/could) steal things from shops. She's rich and famous.
12. □ I really think Real Madrid (can't/could) lose the final of the King's Cup.
13. □ She's been revising 10 hours a day for 3 weeks. She (could/must) be exhausted.
14. □ Nobody's answering. They (can't/must) be out.
15. □ He (can't/may) be from the USA. He doesn't speak English.

B Now write some examples of your own.

1. ..........................................................................................................
2. ..........................................................................................................
3. ..........................................................................................................
4. ..........................................................................................................

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Answers

1  TYPE 1 They may be away for the weekend but I'm not sure.
2  TYPE 3 He could be French, judging by his accent.
3  TYPE 2 They can't still be out!
4  TYPE 1 With luck, tomorrow could be a sunny day.
5  TYPE 3 You might be right but I'm going to check anyway.
6  TYPE 1 The exam might be easy. You never know.
7  TYPE 2 It can't be true about a dinosaur living in Lake Telé in the Congo. It's impossible.
8  TYPE 3 Dave reckons she's from The States but I think she might be from Scandinavia.
9  TYPE 1 I might go to the party but I'm not sure yet.
10 TYPE 3 This could be the right answer but we'll have to check with your teacher to make sure.
11 TYPE 2 She can't steal things from shops. She's rich and famous.
12 TYPE 1 I really think Real Madrid could lose the final of the King's Cup.
13 TYPE 2 She's been revising 10 hours a day for 3 weeks. She must be exhausted.
14 TYPE 2 Nobody's answering. They must be out.
15 TYPE 2 He can't be from the USA. He doesn't speak English.