8.5 Auxiliary Verbs: Test Pack

about 15 minutes

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

The Robotics Challenge

Source written for Revision Library (original, copyright-free). Written for Year 7 grammar practice, July 2026.

Maya had been practising with her robotics team for three weeks before the regional challenge. She felt ready, although she knew the competition would be tough.

On the morning of the contest, the hall was already crowded with teams from other schools. 'Have you tested the sensor yet?' asked her teammate Jack, glancing nervously at the clock. Maya hadn't checked it since breakfast, so she quickly ran a final test.

The robot must complete an obstacle course without any human control. If it touches the walls, the team will lose points. Maya's robot had been programmed to turn automatically whenever a sensor detected an obstacle, but nobody could say for certain it would work under pressure.

When the whistle sounded, the robot moved forward steadily. It should have turned left at the first corner, and it turned exactly as planned. The crowd cheered as the machine glided past every obstacle without a single mistake.

By the end of the day, Maya's team had been awarded first place. She couldn't stop smiling. 'We did it!' she shouted, hugging her teammates. The judges said they might invite the strongest teams back next year for a national final.

1 Tick the sentence in each pair that contains an auxiliary verb.

(a) **(1)**

- [ ] A) The robot moved forward steadily.
- [ ] B) The robot was moving forward steadily.

(b) **(1)**

- [ ] A) Two engineers were testing the wiring when the alarm sounded.
- [ ] B) Two engineers tested the wiring when the alarm sounded.

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(c) (1)

- [ ] A) Maya has finished the design.
- [ ] B) Maya finished the design.

(d) (1)

- [ ] A) The judges might invite the strongest teams back.
- [ ] B) The judges invited the strongest teams back.

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2 Rewrite each statement as a question by moving the auxiliary verb before the subject.

(a) The team has finished the trial run. (2)

(b) Maya is testing the sensor. (2)

(c) The robot will complete the course. (2)

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3 Complete each sentence using the two auxiliary verbs given, together with the correct form of the verb in brackets, in that order.

(a) Auxiliaries: must / have. Verb: practise. Sentence: The gymnasts _____ for months to perform so smoothly. **(2)**

(b) Auxiliaries: should / have. Verb: test. Sentence: The engineer _____ the wiring before the final trial. **(2)**

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4 Below is a paragraph with several errors involving auxiliary verbs. Rewrite it correctly, correcting every error you can find.

'The engineers has been working on the new robot for months. It don't always turn the right way, so yesterday the team tested it again. The lead engineer thought they should of fixed that fault by now. Nobody could not explain why it sometimes stopped.'

(6)

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Mark scheme · 8.5 Auxiliary Verbs: Test Pack

Question 1

(a) B ticked cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **B) The robot was moving forward steadily.**

(b) A ticked cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **A) Two engineers were testing the wiring when the alarm sounded.**

(c) A ticked cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **A) Maya has finished the design.**

(d) A ticked cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **A) The judges might invite the strongest teams back.**

Question 2

(a) has moved correctly before the subject the team **B1**

(a) resulting question complete and correctly punctuated with a question mark, cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **Has the team finished the trial run?**

(b) is moved correctly before the subject Maya **B1**

(b) resulting question complete and correctly punctuated with a question mark, cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **Is Maya testing the sensor?**

(c) will moved correctly before the subject the robot **B1**

(c) resulting question complete and correctly punctuated with a question mark, cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **Will the robot complete the course?**

Question 3

(a) must have used in the correct order **B1**

(a) correct past participle practised, cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **must have practised**

(b) should have used in the correct order **B1**

(b) correct past participle tested, cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **should have tested**

Question 4

Level 0 No accurate corrections made; errors remain uncorrected or new errors introduced. **0**

Level 1 One or two of the four errors corrected, with limited overall accuracy. **1-2**

Level 2 Most errors corrected (three of the four), with generally secure control of auxiliary verbs elsewhere in the paragraph. **3-4**

Level 3 All four errors corrected accurately, demonstrating secure control of auxiliary verb agreement, modal-plus-have constructions and negation throughout. **5-6**

Indicative content:

- 'has been working' corrected to 'have been working' (plural subject 'the engineers' agreement)
- 'don't' corrected to 'doesn't' (singular subject 'it' agreement)
- 'should of' corrected to 'should have' (modal auxiliary must be followed by 'have', not 'of')
- 'could not explain' corrected to 'could explain', removing the double negative created by 'Nobody' plus 'could not'
- Overall rewrite is fluent and grammatically accurate, with all four auxiliary verb errors corrected and no new errors introduced

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