For each question choose the one correct answer.

1:  That’s not a real sword, …. ?
   a: is it?
   b: isn’t it

2:  Which shows less certainty?
   a: You’re a writer, aren’t you?
   b: You’re not a writer, are you?

3:  Which shows less certainty?
   a: He might be someone important
   b: He could be someone important

4:  Which shows less certainty?
   a: He could be someone important
   b: I think he might be someone important

5:  He might _______ be a writer
    a: maybe
    b: perhaps
ANSWERS

For each question choose the one correct answer.

1: That’s not a real sword, …?  
a: is it  
Correct – You have made a correct question tag  
b: isn’t it  
Wrong – Match a positive question to a negative statement to make a question tag

2: Which shows less certainty?  
a: You’re a writer, aren’t you?  
Wrong – This phrase has more certainty, although the speaker’s intonation is important too  
b: You’re not a writer, are you?  
Correct – This phrase has less certainty, although the speaker’s intonation is important too

3: Which shows less certainty?  
a: He might be someone important  
Correct – ‘Might’ tends to have less certainty than ‘could’  
b: He could be someone important  
Wrong – ‘Could’ has more certainty than ‘might’

4: Which shows less certainty?  
a: He could be someone important  
Correct – Although ‘might’ has less certainty than ‘could’, the phrase ‘I think’ strengthens it. However, the speaker’s intonation is important too  
b: I think he might be someone important  
Wrong – Although ‘might’ has less certainty than ‘could’, the phrase ‘I think’ strengthens it. However, the speaker’s intonation is important too

5: He might __________ be a writer  
a: maybe  
Wrong – We usually use ‘maybe’ at the start of a phrase or by itself, but you can say ‘He may be a writer’  
b: perhaps  
Correct – You can use ‘perhaps’ in this way