

MODAL	EXAMPLES	USES
<b>CAN</b>	He <b>can</b> find any street in London. You <b>can</b> take a taxi. <b>Can</b> you take me to Victoria Station?	<i>Ability</i> <i>Suggestion</i> <i>Request</i>
<b>BE ABLE TO</b>	He <b>is able to</b> find any street in London.	<i>Ability</i>
<b>CAN'T</b>	That story <b>can't</b> be true.	<i>Certainty that something is impossible</i>
<b>COULD</b>	I <b>could</b> play tennis when I was younger. <b>Could</b> you take me to Victoria Station? You <b>could</b> take a taxi.	<i>Ability</i> <i>Request</i> <i>Suggestion</i>
<b>MAY</b>	It <b>may</b> be quicker to travel by train. <b>May</b> I come in?	<i>Possibility</i> <i>Formal request/ Permission</i>
<b>MIGHT</b>	It <b>might</b> be quicker to travel by train.	<i>Possibility</i>
<b>MUST</b>	You <b>must</b> be back at 10 o'clock. Look at the snow. It <b>must</b> be cold outside.	<i>Obligation</i> <i>Certainty that something is true.</i>
<b>HAVE TO</b>	You <b>have to</b> be back at 10 o'clock.	<i>Obligation</i>
<b>NEED TO</b>	You <b>need to</b> study a lot.	<i>Obligation.</i>
<b>NEEDN'T</b>	You <b>needn't</b> have a university degree.	<i>Lack of obligation.</i>
<b>MUSN'T</b>	You <b>mustn't</b> drive without a license.	<i>Prohibition</i>
<b>DON'T HAVE TO</b>	You <b>don't have to</b> call a taxi.	<i>Lack of obligation</i>
<b>SHOULD</b>	You <b>should</b> drive more carefully.	<i>Opinion/Advice</i>
<b>OUGHT TO</b>	You <b>ought to</b> drive more carefully.	<i>Opinion/Advice</i>

## MODAL VERBS

CAN	ability	I <b>can</b> speak English.
	permission	<b>Can</b> I go to the toilet?
	probability (0%)	It <b>can't</b> be Susan. She is in Paris
COULD	past ability	She <b>could</b> speak Chinese when she was 5 years old.
	past permission	She <b>could</b> go to the cinema.
	probability (30%)	It <b>could</b> get much colder in January.
	request, offer or suggestion	<b>Could</b> I go to the toilet? I <b>could</b> lend you my dictionary.
MAY	probability (50%)	It <b>may</b> rain tomorrow.
	permission	<b>May</b> I go to the cinema with you?
MIGHT	probability (30% or less)	It <b>might</b> snow today.
MUST	prohibition	You <b>mustn't</b> play with that. It's dangerous.
	deduction / probability (100%)	The visitor <b>must</b> be Daniel. I've seen his car outside.
SHOULD	advice	You <b>shouldn't</b> smoke. It's bad for your health.
WILL	prediction	I think he <b>will</b> study harder this time.
	spontaneous decision	Oh, it's very cold in here. I'll close the window.





## MODAL and SEMI-MODAL VERBS

Modals are auxiliary verbs used to express ability, possibility, permission, obligation...  
Semi-modal\* verbs are composed of two or more separate words ending with 'to'.

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Modal	Concept	Example
<b>CAN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Ability</li> <li>◇ Permission</li> <li>◇ Offers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alex can swim.</li> <li>• Can I borrow this? ('May' is also used.)</li> <li>• Can I help you?</li> </ul>
<b>COULD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Possibility</li> <li>◇ Past ability</li> <li>◇ Permission</li> <li>◇ Requests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That story could be true – who knows!</li> <li>• Charlie could swim at the age of four.</li> <li>• Could I use your phone please?</li> <li>• Could you pass me the salt please?</li> </ul>
<b>BE ABLE TO*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Ability</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• My brother is able to find his way home.</li> </ul>
<b>HAVE TO*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Obligation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have to stop at a red light. That's the law.</li> <li>• Children have to arrive on time at school.</li> </ul>
<b>MAY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Possibility</li> <li>◇ Permission</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It may rain today – it's a bit cloudy.</li> <li>• May I borrow your dictionary?</li> </ul>
<b>MIGHT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Slight possibility</li> <li>◇ Past form of 'may' in reported speech.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We might win a prize but I doubt it.</li> <li>• I said it might rain – but I was wrong.</li> </ul>
<b>MUST</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Obligation</li> <li>◇ Logical deduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Airline officials must wear a uniform.</li> <li>• The heating is off. You must be cold.</li> </ul>
<b>MUSTN'T</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Prohibition</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You mustn't tell your mother - it's a surprise.</li> </ul>
<b>SHOULD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Advice</li> <li>◇ Logical deduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You should take your medicine regularly.</li> <li>• He's revised so he should pass the test.</li> </ul>
<b>OUGHT TO*</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Advice</li> <li>◇ Logical deduction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You ought to write to your grandmother.</li> <li>• 30€ ought to be enough for the taxi.</li> </ul>
<b>SHALL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Future tense auxiliary</li> <li>◇ Offers/suggestions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I shall be in London on Friday (or I'll be...)</li> <li>• Shall I order a taxi?</li> </ul>
<b>WILL</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◇ Future tense auxiliary</li> <li>◇ Invitations/offers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ticket will cost about 50€.</li> <li>• Will you join us for coffee?</li> </ul>

# Talking about ability, permission, possibility, giving advice ...

## Introduction to Modal Verbs

Modal Verbs are auxiliary verbs. They are used with other verbs to express ability, permission, obligation, possibility, giving advice, offering, inviting ...

### MODALS

#### CAN

*Can* is used to express ability.

*He **can** swim very well.*

*I **can't** play this game. It's too complicated.*

#### CAN - MAY

*Can* and *May* are used to ask for or give permission. *May* is also used to express possibility.

***May** I leave earlier today?*

*No, you **may not** leave earlier today.*

*You **can't** drive my car because you're 16.*

*I **may** go away for a few weeks.*

#### MUST

***Must** is used to express obligation,  
You **must** stop when the lights are red.*

***Must** is also used to express prohibition,  
You **mustn't** cross the road now.*

#### SHOULD - SHOULDN'T

***Should** is used to give advice or to tell people something is/ isn't a good thing to do*

*You're coughing a lot. You **should** stop smoking.*

*You **shouldn't** ride your bicycle at night without lights. It's dangerous.*

#### WOULD

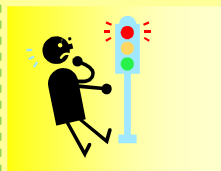
***Would** is used to offer something or invite,  
**Would** you like a cup of coffee?*

***Would** is also used in conditional sentences.*

*If I had enough time, I **would** do that.*

### PRACTICE

#### Complete the sentences with the correct modal:



1. Before you step into the street, you \_\_\_\_\_ look right and left for traffic.

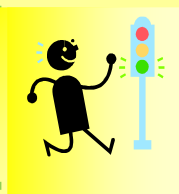
- a. can                      c. would  
b. must                    d. shouldn't

2. You \_\_\_\_\_ ride your bike on the pavement.

- a. can't                    c. wouldn't  
b. can                      d. may

3. You \_\_\_\_\_ be listening to music while you're pedalling.

- a. can                      c. must  
b. shouldn't              d. may



4. You \_\_\_\_\_ keep your ears open for cars.

- a. should                      c. wouldn't  
b. must                      d. may

5. .... you ride a bike safely? I'm not sure.

- a. Can                      c. Must  
b. Shouldn't              d. May

6. If you ride safely, I \_\_\_\_\_ let you ride your bike by yourself.

- a. would                    c. shouldn't  
b. may                      d. should



7. When you ride a bike, you \_\_\_\_\_ signal before turns and lane changes.

- a. shouldn't              c. must  
b. would                    d. mustn't

8. You \_\_\_\_\_ forget to put on a helmet.

- a. mustn't                  b. should  
b. wouldn't              c. can

9. \_\_\_\_\_ you use the front and rear brakes well?

- a. Should                      c. Can  
b. Must                      d. Would

10. \_\_\_\_\_ you like to ride my bike now?

- a. Can                      c. Should  
b. Would                    d. May



11. I I were you, I \_\_\_\_\_ buy a new bicycle. Yours is too old!

- a. would                    c. wouldn't  
b. should                    d. must

12. Carol \_\_\_\_\_ win the first prize. She's been training a lot!

- a. shouldn't                  c. may  
b. would                    d. can't

## KEY

1. must
2. can't
3. shouldn't
4. should
5. Can
6. may
7. must
8. mustn't
9. Can
10. Would
11. Would
12. may

# Modal auxiliaries

## 1. Complete each sentence. Use mustn't and needn't plus one verb.

Help, ask, read, leave, work
------------------------------

1. Carol.....you with your HW. It's important that you do it yourself.
2. You.....with the shopping. John has already done it.
3. We.....Bill about his holiday. He doesn't want to talk about it.
4. I just want a general idea of the story so I .....all the book.
5. You.....Harry for the answer. I can tell you.
6. You look really tired. You studied all night last night, so tonight you.....so hard.
7. You.....yet! You haven't had anything to eat.
8. You.....my letters. They are private.
9. We.....yet. We've got plenty of time to get to the station.
10. I'm sure the shop won't be busy so you.....if you don't want to.

## 2. Put in must or had to.

1. I..... to the bank yesterday to get some money.
2. It's late. ....go now.
3. I don't usually work on Saturdays but last Saturday.....work.
4. ....get up early tomorrow. I've got a lot to do.
5. I went to London by train last week. The train was full and .....stand all the way.

## 3. Complete the sentences. Use mustn't or needn't+one of these verbs:

Clean forget hurry lose wait write
------------------------------------

1. The windows aren't very dirty. You .....them.
2. We have a lot of time. We.....
3. Keep these documents in a safe place. You.....them.
4. I'm not ready yet but you.....for me. You can go now and I'll come later.
5. We .....to turn off the lights before we leave.
6. I .....the letter now. I can do it tomorrow.

## 4. Which is correct? Sometimes must and have to are both correct.

1. It's a great film. You must see/have to see it.
2. In many countries, men must do/have to do military service.
3. You can't park your car here for nothing. You must pay/have to pay.
4. I didn't have any money with me last night, so I must borrow/had to borrow some.
5. I eat too much chocolate. I really must stop/have to stop.
6. Why is Paula going now? She must meet/has to meet somebody.
7. What's wrong? You must tell/have to tell me. I want to help you.

**5 Complete the sentences. Use must + one of these verbs:**

be	—go	go	learn	meet	wash	win
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1. We .....**must go**..... to the bank today. We haven't got any money.
2. Marilyn is a very interesting person. You.....her.
3. My hands are dirty. I.....them.
4. You..... to drive. It will be very useful.
5. I.....to the post office. I need some stamps.
6. The game tomorrow is very important for us. We .....
7. You can't always have things immediately. You..... patient.

**6. Match the warnings in column A to their reasons in column B, as in the example.**

- | A                                       | B                                  |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. Don't eat too many sweets.           | A) You might catch a cold.         |
| 2. Keep children away from the stove.   | B) You could get a parking ticket. |
| 3. Don't park your car here.            | C) You might get a stomach ache.   |
| 4. Take your umbrella.                  | D) It could scratch you.           |
| 5. Stay away from the cat.              | E) They could burn themselves.     |
| 6. Dry your hair before you go outside. | F) It might rain today.            |

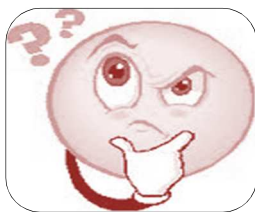


## WHAT ARE THEY?

They are common auxiliary verbs used to express the speaker's subjective attitudes and opinions that include :

POSSIBILITY, IMPOSSIBILITY  
PROBABILITY, NECESSITY (OR LACK OF)  
OBLIGATION, (OR LACK OF) PERMISSION, PROHIBITION  
ABILITY, INABILITY, DESIRE,...

# MODAL VERBS



## WHEN ARE THEY USED?

We DON'T normally use modal verbs to say that a situation definitely exists. We use them to talk about...

- THINGS WHICH WE EXPECT, "He may pass his driving test"
- WHICH ARE OR ARE NOT POSSIBLE, "What would you do if you won the lottery?"
- WHICH WE THINK ARE NECESSARY, "She must tidy up her room. It's a mess!"
- WHICH WE WANT TO HAPPEN, "I think you ought to see a doctor"
- WHICH WE ARE NO SURE ABOUT, "She could be here in a minute, nobody knows"
- WHICH TEND TO HAPPEN, "London can be very cold in winter"
- WHICH HAVE NOT HAPPENED, "I can't swim. He might have told me he wasn't coming. I think she should have cancelled her account."

## HOW ARE THEY USED?

- They are used before the infinitives of other verbs without the preposition TO, except OUGHT.
- They have no -S in the 3rd person singular.
- Questions, negatives, tags and short answers are made WITHOUT "do"
- They don't have infinitives or participles and they don't normally have past forms (though WOULD, COULD, SHOULD, and MIGHT can sometimes be used as the past tense of WILL, CAN, SHALL and MAY. Other expressions are used when necessary (BE ABLE TO, HAVE TO, BE ALLOWED TO).
- Certain past ideas can be expressed by a MODAL+ PERFECT INFINITIVE.

## HOW MANY ARE THERE?

### CAN

**PRESENT ABILITY**= to be able to

She can speak perfect Spanish

**PRESENT PERMISSION**=to be allowed to)

Can I buy a new video game?

**REQUEST** "Can you just wait a minute, please?"

**OFFER** "I can lend you the book".

**SUGGESTION**

Can we celebrate Christmas abroad?

**POSSIBILITY**

It can be very hot in winter here.

**CERTAINTY** (negative)

He can't be at home. It's too early

### COULD

**PAST ABILITY**= to be able to

She could speak perfect Spanish

**PAST PERMISSION**=be allowed to

I could go out last night.

**POLITE QUESTION**

Could I go to the cinema, please?

**POLITE REQUEST**

Could you just wait a minute, please?

**POLITE OFFER**

I could lend you the book.

**POLITE SUGGESTION**

Could we celebrate Christmas abroad

**POSSIBILITY**

It could get very hot in Montana.

### MAY

**POSSIBILITY**

It may rain today.

**PRESENT PERMISSION**

May I go to the cinema?

**POLITE SUGGESTION**

May I help you?

**PROHIBITION: MAY NOT**

You may not use my mobile.

### MIGHT

**POSSIBILITY** (less possible than may)

It might rain today.

**OFFER**

Might I help you?

### MUST

**FORCE. NECESSITY**

I must go to the supermarket today.

**POSSIBILITY**

You must be tired.

**ADVICE**

You must see the new James Bond film.

**PROHIBITION: MUST NOT**

You mustn't use my mobile

**CERTAINTY**

He must be home by now. He left 2 hour ago

### WILL

**REQUEST. DEMAND. ORDER**

(less polite than would)

Will you please shut the door?

**PREDICTION**

I think it will rain on Friday.

**PROMISE**

I will stop smoking.

**SPONTANEOUS DECISION**

Can somebody drive me to the station? -

I will.

**HABITS**

She's strange, she'll sit for hours without talking.

### SHALL

**OFFERS**

Shall I help you with the laundry?

### WOULD

**REQUEST** (more polite than will)

Would you shut the door, please?

**HABITS IN THE PAST**

Sometimes he would bring me some flowers.

### NEED NOT

**NOT NECESSARY**

I needn't call him. I've already done it.

### SHOULD

**ADVICE**

You should drive carefully in bad weather.

**OBLIGATION**

You should switch off the light when you leave the room.

### HAD BETTER. (SEMI - MODAL)

**ADVICE**

You had better leave now

### WOULD RATHER (SEMI-MODAL)

**WISH**

I'd rather leave early tomorrow

### HAVE TO (SEMI-MODAL)

**NECESSITY/OBLIGATION**

**LACK OF NECESSITY**

(PRESENT/PAST/FUT.)

### OUGHT TO (SEMI-MODAL)

**ADVICE**

You ought to drive carefully in bad weather.

**OBLIGATION**

You ought to switch off the light when you leave the room.



**1. USE CAN. COULD. BE ABLE TO IN THE CORRECT FORM**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ you hear that strange noise? It's so annoying!
2. My wife \_\_\_\_\_ play tennis quite well.
3. My brother \_\_\_\_\_ read when he was three years old.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ you tell me what time it is, please?
5. Last night my grandfather \_\_\_\_\_ walk without any help.
6. I would like to \_\_\_\_\_ play the piano.
7. After many tries he \_\_\_\_\_ get his driving license.
8. I'll \_\_\_\_\_ help you later.
9. Can you help me? I \_\_\_\_\_ understand what he's taking about.
10. Man \_\_\_\_\_ live forever one day?

**3. CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION.**

1. You (may/would) \_\_\_\_\_ leave if you wish.
2. (Could/May) \_\_\_\_\_ you open the window a bit, please?
3. (May/Can) \_\_\_\_\_ you play the violin?
4. You (may not/could not) \_\_\_\_\_ speak during the exam.
5. You (can't/ must not) \_\_\_\_\_ smoke on the bus.
6. (Should/May) \_\_\_\_\_ I make a call on your mobile?
7. Do you know if Mark (can/would) \_\_\_\_\_ come?
8. (Can't/May) \_\_\_\_\_ I sit here, please?
9. You can tell your friends they (can/could) stay the night if they want to.
10. I'm sorry but you (can't/may) \_\_\_\_\_ use the computer now

**4. FILL THE GAPS WITH NEED. DON'T NEED OR SHOULD.**

1. Remember you \_\_\_\_\_ a tent if you go camping.
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ buy any milk. I've already bought some.
3. You \_\_\_\_\_ say sorry to your mum, you haven't behaved properly.
4. You \_\_\_\_\_ do the washing up. I'll do it later.
5. We \_\_\_\_\_ pay for the tickets, they are free.
6. If you want to pass all your exams, you \_\_\_\_\_ study hard.
7. You \_\_\_\_\_ go and visit your grandpa. He'll be happy to see you.

**6. COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES WITH THE CORRECT MODAL (POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE)****CAN COULD MAY MIGHT MUST SHOULD HAVE TO**

1. I have travelled a lot and I \_\_\_\_\_ speak many languages.
2. I understand you perfectly. You \_\_\_\_\_ to say it again.
3. They haven't decided where to go on holidays but they \_\_\_\_\_ go to Greece.
4. You \_\_\_\_\_ (not) read in the car. You \_\_\_\_\_ get sick.
5. She \_\_\_\_\_ (not) eat so much chocolate if she wants to keep in good shape.
6. I \_\_\_\_\_ hear you. Speak louder, please.
7. It's later than I thought. I \_\_\_\_\_ go before it gets dark.
9. Talk to me. I'm sure I \_\_\_\_\_ help you.
10. You \_\_\_\_\_ (not) do the ironing, Anne has already done it.
11. You \_\_\_\_\_ be very tired because you have worked very hard.
12. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ come to my birthday party because he is in hospital.
13. You \_\_\_\_\_ go to the dentist when you have a toothache.
14. You \_\_\_\_\_ (not) do it now. You \_\_\_\_\_ do it tomorrow.
15. \_\_\_\_\_ you speak any European language?
16. I don't know yet but I \_\_\_\_\_ go to London this weekend.
17. Smoking is bad for you health. You \_\_\_\_\_ give it up.
19. You have got plenty of time. You \_\_\_\_\_ (not) hurry.
20. You \_\_\_\_\_ have a passport to visit some foreign countries.
21. He speaks a lot of languages but he \_\_\_\_\_ (not) speak Chinese.
22. It \_\_\_\_\_ rain. It's very cloudy.

**8. FILL THE GAPS WITH HAD/ D BETTER OR WOULD/ D RATHER.**

1. It's getting dark. You \_\_\_\_\_ go back now.
2. A: Can I borrow your dress? B: You \_\_\_\_\_ not!
3. A: Can I invite my friends? B: I \_\_\_\_\_ you didn't.
4. You know, I \_\_\_\_\_ you didn't smoke in front of the kids.
5. You \_\_\_\_\_ put on your coat; It's showing now
7. We \_\_\_\_\_ you didn't come home so late.
8. You \_\_\_\_\_ finish the project on time.

**2. USE HAVE TO. MUST. MUST NOT IN THE CORRECT FORM**

1. Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ to get up very early. I'm so tired now
2. She will \_\_\_\_\_ wait at the queue like everyone else.
3. Students \_\_\_\_\_ be on time for school.
4. We \_\_\_\_\_ forget to invite Peter to the party.
5. You \_\_\_\_\_ be careful in this area at night; It's quite dangerous.
6. You \_\_\_\_\_ try on a different size. This dress doesn't fit you.
7. The doctor \_\_\_\_\_ get here as soon as he can.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ go to school next week?
9. Drivers \_\_\_\_\_ remember to signal when they turn.
10. You \_\_\_\_\_ leave your clothes all over the floor like this. You are so untidy!

**5. FILL THE GAPS WITH HAVE TO. MUST OR SHOULD.**

1. You \_\_\_\_\_ eat pasta if you want to lose wait.
2. If you don't want to buy those shoes you \_\_\_\_\_ buy them.
3. You \_\_\_\_\_ play with matches! It's dangerous
4. I haven't heard from Anna for ages. Maybe I \_\_\_\_\_ give her a ring.
5. You \_\_\_\_\_ remember your passport. Otherwise they won't let you on the plane.
6. The weather will be fine this weekend. We \_\_\_\_\_ go on a picnic.
7. You \_\_\_\_\_ stay on your own so late at night. It's extremely dangerous.
8. You \_\_\_\_\_ come if you don't feel like it.
9. Anna said she was coming after work so she \_\_\_\_\_ be here by six.
10. I \_\_\_\_\_ be at the meeting at 4:00. I won't be on time.
11. While hiking in Alaska, you \_\_\_\_\_ keep an eye out for bears. If you see one, you \_\_\_\_\_ approach it.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ go to work tomorrow because it is Memorial Day. The best thing about a day off from work is that I \_\_\_\_\_ get up at 6:00;

**7. MIGHT / MUST / SHOULD / HAVE TO**

1. Yesterday, I \_\_\_\_\_ cram all day for my French final. I didn't get to sleep until after midnight.
2. We had better call Tony to see if he's at home before we go over to his house. He \_\_\_\_\_ be there and we don't want to drive all the way over there for nothing.
3. At first, my boss didn't want to hire Sam. But, because I had previously worked with Sam, I told my boss that he \_\_\_\_\_ take another look at his resume.
4. You \_\_\_\_\_ worry so much. It doesn't do you any good. Either you get the job, or you don't. If you don't, just apply for another one
5. I would love to go on the cruise to Tahiti with Robin and Michelle. But such a luxurious trip \_\_\_\_\_ cost a fortune.
6. Nate: Oh no! I completely forgot we were supposed to pick Jenny up at the airport, Barbara: She \_\_\_\_\_ still be there waiting for us.
7. Ingrid received a scholarship to Yale University, which will cover 100% of the tuition. She \_\_\_\_\_ worry at all about the increasing cost of education.
8. When I was a child my grandmother was continually correcting our manners. She always used to say, "One \_\_\_\_\_ eat with one's mouth open." "One \_\_\_\_\_ rest one's elbows on the table." I've redone this math problem at least twenty times, but my answer is wrong according to the answer key. The answer in the book \_\_\_\_\_ be wrong!

**9. FILL THE GAPS WITH EITHER DON'T/DOESN'T HAVE TO OR MUSTN'T IN THE CORRECT FORM.**

1. Anna! You \_\_\_\_\_ be so rude!
2. Tommy! You \_\_\_\_\_ do that. It's really disgusting.
3. You \_\_\_\_\_ be here at six. You can arrive later.
4. Ian \_\_\_\_\_ go to church if he doesn't want to.
5. You \_\_\_\_\_ drive so fast. You'll get fined.
6. Helen \_\_\_\_\_ shout at everyone. People are scared of her.
7. David \_\_\_\_\_ answer your emails. There's no law about it.
8. It's OK. You \_\_\_\_\_ pay now. I can wait.
9. You \_\_\_\_\_ forget to pay the rent tomorrow
10. You \_\_\_\_\_ to book the tickets for the play in advance.
11. You \_\_\_\_\_ wear a tie for the interview. The job is quite informal.
12. My teacher told me that the book is optional so I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ read it if I don't want to.
13. You \_\_\_\_\_ speak to him like that. He is very sensitive.
14. Do you \_\_\_\_\_ chew with your mouth open like that?  
it's making me sick watching you eat that piece of pizza.

**10. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES USING: CAN/COULD/HAVE TO/MUST/MIGHT/SHOULD**

2. Ned: \_\_\_\_\_ I borrow your lighter for a minute?  
Stephen: Sure, no problem. Actually, you \_\_\_\_\_ keep it if you want to. I've given up smoking.
3. I \_\_\_\_\_ believe she said that to Megan! She \_\_\_\_\_ have insulted her cooking in front of everyone at the party last night. She \_\_\_\_\_ have just said she was full or had some salad if she didn't like the meal.
4. Mrs. Scarlett's body was found in the lounge just moments ago, and it's still warm! Nobody has left the mansion this evening, so the killer \_\_\_\_\_ be someone in this room. It \_\_\_\_\_ be any one of us!!!
7. \_\_\_\_\_ you always \_\_\_\_\_ say the first thing that pops into your head? \_\_\_\_\_ you think once in awhile before you speak?
8. I was reading the book last night before I went to bed. I never took it out of this room. It \_\_\_\_\_ be lying around here somewhere. Where \_\_\_\_\_ it be?

**MODAL PERFECTS**



**MUST HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (A LOGICAL CONCLUSION about an event in the past)**

Alan must have got up very early this morning.

**MIGHT / MAY HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (A GUESS about something which happened in the past)**

They might / may have bought a new house.

**COULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (ABILITY TO DO SOMETHING IN THE PAST, not done in the end)**

You could have spoken to him about it.

**CAN'T HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (A CERTAINTY that something DID NOT HAPPEN)**

He couldn't have known about the problem.

**SHOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (ADVICE which was not followed in the past or UNFULFILLED EXPECTATIONS)**

He should have listened to me and he would have passed

**SHOULDN'T HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE (CRITICISM after an event)**

You shouldn't have gone out without a coat. It's freezing

**WRITE THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERBS IN BRACKETS USING PERFECT MODALS**

1. You \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT/SHOUT) at me last night I'll never forgive you.
2. Anne was very upset you didn't go to her birthday party. You \_\_\_\_\_ (TO GO)
3. No one's answering the phone. They \_\_\_\_\_ out. (TO GO)
4. The lights are on. They \_\_\_\_\_ (ALREADY/ARRIVE)
5. We \_\_\_\_\_ you to the party if we had known you were in town. (TO INVITE)
6. If I had gone shopping with you, I'm sure I \_\_\_\_\_ something. (TO BUY)
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ to travel more when I was younger. (TO LOVE)
8. You \_\_\_\_\_ to the pub on Saturday. We had a great time. (TO COME)
9. She \_\_\_\_\_ her mind. I'm not sure. (to change)
10. You \_\_\_\_\_ so much money on CDs. You already have too many (NOT/SPEND)
11. If I had gone on holidays to New Zealand, \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT/COME) to work this week.
12. Anna agreed to meet us at the cinema but she wasn't there. She \_\_\_\_\_ (WAIT) for us.
13. It \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) Sam who called this morning and didn't leave a message on the answering machine.
14. If I had gone with my friends to Jamaica, I \_\_\_\_\_ (TAKE) scuba diving lessons
15. The machine \_\_\_\_\_ (TURN ON) by pushing this button.
16. Her eyes were so red and swollen. She \_\_\_\_\_ (CRY)
17. If she was crying, she \_\_\_\_\_ (HAVE) a very good reason.
18. This painting \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT/PAINT) by Monet. It could be a forgery.
19. Oh no! Ann's wallet is lying on the coffee table. She \_\_\_\_\_ (LEAVE) it here last night
20. I don't know where the book is. Peter \_\_\_\_\_ (PUT) it somewhere, I'm sure.
21. You \_\_\_\_\_ (SAY) that to her. She was really annoyed.
22. Sarah: Look at these flowers - they're beautiful! Who could have sent them? Anne: It \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) David.  
He's the only one who would send you flowers.
23. Jenny's engagement ring is enormous! It \_\_\_\_\_ (COST) a fortune.
24. Ann's flight from Paris took more than 11 hours. She \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) exhausted after such a long flight.
25. If I had gone with my friends to the Caribe, I \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) sunbathing right now
26. There is no electricity. Something \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) damaged during the storm.
27. If you had work harder, you \_\_\_\_\_ (GET) better results.
28. Six in the morning and nobody home. The \_\_\_\_\_ (SET UP) for their journey very early
29. Ted: I don't know why Denise started crying when I mentioned the wedding.  
Pamela: It \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) what you said about her brother. Or, perhaps she is just nervous.

#### EXERCISE 1. COULDN'T / MIGHT NOT

1. When you were a child, you could swim from here to the little island in the middle of the river, (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) you? At least, that's what your father told me.
2. She (COULDN'T/ MIGHT NOT) possibly be the winner of the talent show! The other acts were much better than hers.
3. Frank and Sarah (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) get tickets to the concert. The concert was sold out a little over an hour after tickets went on sale.
4. I heard that band is really popular, and tickets sell out quickly. You (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) get tickets if you wait too long.
5. That concert has been sold out for weeks. You (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) get tickets even if you knew the band personally. It's impossible!
6. It (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) be a bad idea to get a car alarm for your new sports car. New cars tend to attract thieves.
7. That (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) possibly be Mr. Jones. He's lost so much weight that he looks like a completely different person.
8. You (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) do the job if you didn't speak Arabic fluently.
9. Jane and Bill (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) have gotten the invitation to the party. Perhaps, that's why they didn't show up.
10. I (COULDN'T/MIGHT NOT) have left my keys at Simon's house. I wouldn't have been able to drive home if I had done that. They must be somewhere here in the apartment. Let's keep looking.

# MUST-MUSTN'T-CAN-HAVE TO-DON'T HAVE TO

MUST: WE USE MUST WHEN WE FEEL AN OBLIGATION TO DO SOMETHING

EXAMPLE: I MUST PHONE MY SISTER FOR HER BIRTHDAY

MUSTN'T: WE USE MUSTN'T WHEN WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DO SOMETHING

EXAMPLE: YOU MUSTN'T EAT IN CLASS

HAVE TO: WE USE HAVE TO WHEN THE OBLIGATION COMES FROM EXTERNAL FACTORS

EXAMPLE: I HAVE TO PAY TAXES

DON'T HAVE TO: WE USE DON'T HAVE TO WHEN WE ARE NOT OBLIGED TO DO SOMETHING

EXAMPLE: I DON'T HAVE TO WRITE A LONG LETTER.

CAN: WE USE CAN TO TALK ABOUT OUR ABILITY TO DO SOMETHING

EXAMPLE: I CAN SWIM

## CHOOSE THE RIGHT OPTION

- 1- I MUST / HAVE TO VISIT MY FRIEND. IT IS HER BIRTHDAY.
- 2- SAM HAS TO / MUST WEAR UNIFORM AT SCHOOL.
- 3- YOU DON'T HAVE TO/ HAVE TO GO TO THE SUPERMARKET. I'LL DO IT.
- 4- YOU DON'T HAVE TO / MUSTN'T SWIM IN THIS PART OF THE RIVER. IT IS VERY DANGEROUS
- 5- YOU MUST / DON'T HAVE TO DRINK A LOT OF WATER IN HOT WEATHER.
- 6- I CAN / MUSTN'T SWIM VERY FAST.
- 7- SHE DOESN'T HAVE TO / CAN'T BRING AN UMBRELLA. IT ISN'T RAINING.
- 8- I HAVE TO / MUST TIDY MY ROOM THIS WEEKEND.
- 9- WE HAVE TO /MUSTN'T ARRIVE LATE AT SCHOOL.

## REWRITE THE SENTENCES USING THE WORDS GIVEN

- 1- YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK DURING THE TEST (MUSTN'T)  
.....
- 2- IT ISN'T NECESSARY TO BRING FOOD (DON'T HAVE TO)  
.....
- 3- I'M OBLIGED TO FINISH THIS LETTER BEFORE MIDDAY (HAVE TO)  
.....
- 4- YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE CLASSROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION (MUSTN'T)  
.....
- 5- IT ISN'T NECESSARY TO PAY FOR THE TICKETS. THEY ARE FREE (DON'T HAVE TO)



CHOOSE THE RIGHT OPTION



YOU ..... SMOKE IN THIS ROOM  
CAN      MUST      MUSTN'T



I ..... STUDY HARD FOR THE TEST  
CAN      MUST      MUSTN'T



I ..... DANCE  
HAVE TO      MUST      CAN



YOU..... TO BRING SANDWICHES.I HAVE MADE SOME  
DON'T HAVE TO      MUSTN'T      CAN



YOU..... USE YOUR MOBILE PHONE  
ON THE PLANE  
MUSTN'T      MUST      CAN



YOU ..... EAT IN CLASS  
DON'T HAVE TO      CAN      MUSTN'T



T      WEAR A UNIFORM AT WORK

T      PUT THE DIRT IN THE BIN

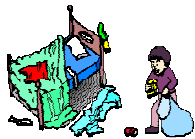
MATCH THE SENTENCES WITH THE PICTURES



here.



cores.



1. You mustn't ride your bike

2. I have to tidy my room.

3. I must help my mum with the

4. I can jump high.

5. I have to do my homework.

6. You must stop here.



# MUST - MUSTN'T - CAN - HAVE TO - DON'T HAVE TO



WE USE **CAN /CAN'T**: TO EXPRESS ABILITY, OR TO ASK PERMISSION.

**EXAMPLE: I CAN PLAY THE GUITAR.**

**I CAN'T SWIM.**

**CAN I OPEN THE WINDOW?**

WE USE **MUST/ HAVE TO**: TO EXPRESS NECESSITY OR OBLIGATION

WE USE **MUST**: TO EXPRESS THAT I DECIDE.

**EXAMPLE I MUST CALL MY FRIEND. IT'S HER BIRTHDAY.**

WE USE **HAVE TO**: TO EXPRESS THAT SOMEBODY ELSE DECIDE.

**HAS TO**: IS USED IN THE THIRD PERSON SINGULAR.

**EXAMPLE: I HAVE TO WEAR UNIFORM AT SCHOOL.**

THE NEGATIVE FORM OF HAVE TO /HAS TO IS: **DON'T /DOESN'T HAVE TO**. WE USE IT TO EXPRESS ABSENCE OF OBLIGATION.

**EXAMPLE :I DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR THE COURSE.IT IS FREE.**

THE NEGATIVE FORM OF MUST IS **MUSTN'T** BUT THE MEANING IS PROHIBITION.

**EXAMPLE: YOU MUSN'T TALK DURING THE EXAM.**



COMPLETE WITH HAVE /HAS TO / DON'T / DOESN'T HAVE TO.

- 1- IT SATURDAY, SO THE CHILDREN.....TO GO TO SCHOOL.
- 2- SAM.....STUDY FOR A TEST, SO HE IS GOING TO STAY AT HOME.
- 3-YOUR SHOES ARE DIRTY! YOU..... CLEAN THEM.
4. I.....TAKE AN UMBRELLA. IT ISN'T RAINING-
- 5- SHE.....GET UP EARLY. IT IS SUNDAY.
- 6-I .....WAIT FOR THE BUS. MY FATHER TAKES ME TO SCHOOL.
- 7-SHE.....TIDY HER ROOM.IT IS A MESS.

COMPLETE WITH MUST OR MUSTN'T

- 1- I..... BUY A PRESENT FOR MY FRIEND. IT IS HER BIRTHDAY.
- 2- YOU.....SIT ON THE GRASS.
- 3-YOU .....EAT IN CLASS.
- 4- I ..... SEE THE DENTIST. I HAVE A TERRIBLE TOOTHACHE.
- 5-YOU.....FEED THE DOG. IT IS HUNGRY.
- 6-I.....SHOUT IN CLASS.
- 7-YOU .....FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK.





### COMPLETE WITH CAN OR CAN'T

- 1-.....I BORROW YOUR PEN? I FORGOT MINE.
- 2-I.....MOVE THE FURNITURE. IT'S TOO HEAVY.
- 3-A FISH.....SWIM, BUT IT .....FLY.
- 4-SHE.....READ, BECAUSE SHE FORGOT THE BOOK.
- 5- HE .....PAINT THE WALLS, THE WEATHER IS TOO WET.
- 6-I.....PLAY THE PIANO. I LEARNT HOW TO DO IT WHEN I WAS 6.

### COMPLETE WITH MUST OR HAVE/HAS TO

- 1-THE DOCTOR SAYS "YOU.....TAKE YOUR MEDICINE".
- 2-I .....FINISH THE REPORT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
- 3-SHE.....WORK LATE TODAY. HER BOSS ORDERED HER TO STAY TILL 10.00.
- 4- I.....PHONE MY PARENTS AND TELL THE GOOD NEWS.
- 5-I .....VISIT MY FRIENDS. I MISS THEM.
- 6- YOU .....TAKE THE PASSPORT IF YOU WANT TO GO ABROAD.

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT ANSWER.

- 1-.....TO GO TO SCHOOL ON HOLIDAYS?  
MUST YOU HAVE                      CAN YOU HAVE                      DO YOU HAVE
- 2-SALLY IS ILL. SHE .....STAY IN BED.  
CAN                      HAS TO                      MUSTN'T
- 3-JUDITH .....PAY FOR HER HOLIDAYS. IT IS A PRESENT FROM HER BOYFRIEND.  
MUSTN'T                      DON'T HAVE TO                      DOESN'T HAVE TO
- 4-MUM.....I STAY OUT LATE TONIGHT?  
HAVE                      CAN                      HAS
- 5-YOU.....PLAY LOUD MUSIC.IT'S TOO LATE.  
MUSTN'T                      MUST                      CAN
- 6-YOU.....WAIT OUTSIDE. IT IS RAINING.  
MUSTN'T                      CAN'T                      HAVE TO







# MUST - MUSTN'T - HAVE TO - DON'T HAVE TO

COMPLETE THE SENTENCES WITH THE RIGHT MODAL

1-THE KIDS .....  
CLEAN THEIR ROOM



2-SHE .....  
SEND 10 E-MAILS  
BEFORE MIDDAY.



3-PAM .....  
STUDY FOR THE EXAM



4-YOU .....  
TALK DURING THE  
TEST



5-YOU .....LISTEN  
TO THE TEACHER



6-I .....GET UP  
EARLY, BECAUSE IT  
IS SUNDAY



7-YOU .....CROSS  
THE STREET WHEN  
THE LIGHT IS RED



8-I .....FEED THE  
DOG. MY GRANNY HAS  
JUST DONE IT



9- MY SISTER .....  
HURRY OR SHE WILL  
MISS THE SCHOOL  
BUS



10- MY UNCLE IS A  
PILOT. HE .....  
WEAR AN UNIFORM  
AT WORK



11-IT ISN'T RAINING  
SO, I .....TAKE  
THE UMBRELLA



12-I .....EAT  
MORE VEGETABLES



13-IT IS A FORMAL  
PARTY. HE .....  
WEAR A SUIT



14-YOU .....  
DO THE SHOPPING.  
THERE IS A LOT OF  
FOOD IN THE FRIDGE



# Practise Your Modal Verbs

Look at these signs and write down the rules, regulation or advice they give. Use your modal verbs!

Can - Could - May - Might - Must - Ought to - Shall - Should - Will - Would



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# REPHRASING 3

## MODALS -1-

GRAM

1. You can leave him on his own: he's old enough.  
There's no reason why \_\_\_\_\_
2. It was not necessary to go.  
We needn't \_\_\_\_\_
3. I don't think he really meant to say that.  
He can't \_\_\_\_\_
4. You should have written to him earlier.  
Why \_\_\_\_\_
5. I suppose he missed his train.  
He must \_\_\_\_\_
6. I would prefer not to inform the staff about my departure, if you don't mind.  
I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_
7. It is possible that Shakespeare wrote this play.  
Shakespeare may \_\_\_\_\_
8. It wasn't necessary for you to buy that book.  
You needn't \_\_\_\_\_
9. The thieves very probably had an accomplice in the bank.  
The thieves must \_\_\_\_\_
10. The train will probably be late.  
The train is \_\_\_\_\_
11. I don't think dinosaurs were right to go on smoking.  
Dinosaurs shouldn't \_\_\_\_\_
12. You should stop smoking!  
If I were you \_\_\_\_\_
13. Maybe the cartoonist overestimated the public's sense of humour.  
The cartoonist \_\_\_\_\_
14. In the past he visited his grandparents every Sunday.  
He \_\_\_\_\_
15. I prefer dogs to cats.  
I would rather \_\_\_\_\_
16. Why didn't you have a rest ?  
You should \_\_\_\_\_
17. It was wrong of you not to have done your homework.  
You \_\_\_\_\_
18. Susan would prefer to go to Scotland next summer.  
\_\_\_\_\_
19. "Will you have lunch here or in a restaurant?"  
I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_
20. I'd prefer to live in a house rather than in a flat.  
I'd \_\_\_\_\_
21. The weather's awful: you'd better stay at home!  
If I \_\_\_\_\_
22. For the next holidays I prefer the mediterranean coast to the mountains.  
For the next holidays I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_



23. You may do it only if you get special permission.

You aren't \_\_\_\_\_

24. Perhaps you forgot your pen in the other room.

You \_\_\_\_\_

25. You should read this text seriously.

You'd better \_\_\_\_\_

26. I would prefer not to be here when he comes.

I'd rather \_\_\_\_\_

27. Perhaps he phoned while we were out.

He may \_\_\_\_\_

28. You needn't come if you don't want to.

You \_\_\_\_\_ if you don't want to.

29. Tell him we'd prefer to go fishing.

Tell him we \_\_\_\_\_ go fishing.

30. I'm certain they ran away through a tunnel.

They \_\_\_\_\_ through a tunnel.



# We use modal verbs to express:

## ABILITY - CAPABILITY

I **can** swim.

I **could** swim when I was five.

## PERMISSION

You **can** go to the cinema.

In the evenings we **could** watch TV.

## SUGGESTION

You **could** give Mary some flowers.

**Shall** we buy her a hat?

## a REQUEST

**Can** I go to the cinema tonight?

**Could** you lend me £5, please?

**May** I leave the room?

**Would** you please close the door?

## POSSIBILITY

Measles **can** be quite dangerous.

This vase **could** be very valuable.

He **may** be waiting for us at the airport.

John **might** come to your party.

**Would** John come with us if we asked him?

## DEDUCTION-ASSUMPTION

It **couldn't** have been John because he's in London.

He drives a Ferrari. He **must** be rich.

## SPECULATION

He **may** have gone to Spain with Mary.

Someone **might** have already told his father.

What **would** I have done without you?

Where **shall/will** we be this time next year?

## PROHIBITION

You **mustn't** eat any more chocolate.

You **should** never repeat what you have just said.

## OBLIGATION

You **must** / **have to** study harder!

I **should** be studying but I'm too tired.

## NECESSITY

We **must** buy some more vegetables.

Semi-modals (have to/need to) are often preferred. NOT NECESSARY uses don't have to or don't need to/needn't

We **don't need to** buy any more vegetables. (It isn't necessary)

## ADVICE

You **should** go to the doctor's tomorrow.

You **must** go to the doctor's tomorrow! (emphatic advice)

Semi-modals and other forms are often used. However, they sometimes change the level of intensity of the advice given.

You **ought to/had better/have to/ . . . . .**

If I were you I **would** go to the doctor's.