

...the auxiliary verbs except be, do and have are called modals. Unlike other auxiliary verbs modals only exist in their helping form; they cannot act alone as the main verb in a sentence. The modal verbs express modality, ability, possibility, need or another condition. We use them for the future and the conditional.

As complementary verbs that are, modal verbs do not work without another verb. This other verb always follows the modal verb and is in the base form (the infinitive without "to"). The modal verbs are not conjugated and they have no time.



## EXAMPLES



**Possibility**

It **may** rain.  
It **may not** rain.  
**May** it rain?  
Yes, It **may**.  
No, It **may not**.



**Offers and invitation**

I **would** like to go with you.  
I **would not** like to go with you.  
**Would** you like to go with me?  
Yes, I **would**.  
No, I **wouldn't**.



**Suggestion**

Frank **should** smoke one a week.  
Frank **shouldn't** smoke, she will sick even more.  
**Shouldn't** Frank smoke, she will sick even more?  
Yes, she **should**.  
No, she **shouldn't**.



**Ability**

They **can** swim.  
They **can't** swim.  
**Can** they swim?  
Yes, they **can**.  
No, they **can't**.



1. Listen when others are talking.
2. Follow directions.
3. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
4. Walk quietly and do not disturb others.
5. Show respect for school and personal property.
6. Walk and play in safe manner.

**Obligation**

You **have to** respect the school rules.  
You **haven't to** respect the school rules.  
**Have you to** respect the school rules?  
Yes, I **have**.  
No, I **haven't**.



**Permission in past**

Hans **could** skate when he was six years.  
Hans **couldn't** skate when he was six years.  
**Could** Hans skate when he was six years?  
Yes, he **could**.  
No, he **couldn't**.



**Obligation and prohibition**

We **must** recycle and take care our planet.  
We **must not** waste the water.  
**Must** we recycle and take care the planet?  
Yes, we **must**.  
No, we **must not**.





	USES	EXAMPLE
<b>CAN</b>	General ability. Request.	They <b>can</b> control their own budgets. We <b>can't</b> fix it. <b>Can</b> I smoke here? <b>Can</b> you help me?
<b>COULD</b>	General ability in the past. Request.	<b>Could</b> I borrow your dictionary? <b>Could</b> you say it again more slowly? We <b>could</b> try to fix it ourselves. I think we <b>could</b> have another Gulf War. He gave up his old job so he <b>could</b> work for us.
<b>MAY</b>	Asking for permission Possibility.	<b>May</b> I have another cup of coffee? China <b>may</b> become a major economic power.
<b>SHOULD</b>	To give advice, recommendation or suggestion.	You really <b>should</b> go to the new restaurant on Main Street. I think you <b>should</b> study for the test so that you don't fail.
<b>WOULD</b>	Used as a polite invitation or to offer. Describe a prediction (hypothetical situations). To not sound impolite when disagreeing with someone.	<b>Would</b> you like to go to the movies with me tonight? It <b>would</b> be nice to have a barbecue. I <b>wouldn't</b> agree with that.
	Shows us that the obligation comes from somebody else. It's a law or a rule and the speaker can't change it.	We <b>have to</b> complete this activity by Friday. In Britain you <b>have to</b> buy a TV license every year.
	Shows us that the obligation comes from the speaker. It isn't a law or a rule.	I <b>must</b> memorize all of these rules about modal verbs. I <b>must</b> call my dad tonight.





1 Match them.

1. ¿Te gustaría bailar conmigo?
2. Yo puedo ayudar a tu mamá.
3. Carlos puede comer después.
4. Debes ser buen hijo.
5. Yo debería estudiar más.
6. Ustedes deben llamar a la policía.
7. Debes cumplir las reglas del colegio.

- A. I can help your mother.
- B. Carlos can eat later.
- C. I should study more.
- D. You have to abide the rules of the school.
- E. You must be a good son.
- F. You must call the police.
- G. Would you like to dance with me?

2 Pick the right Modals verb.

1. I think you should wear that dress. It doesn't suit you. (don't have to - must- shouldn't)
2. We didn't have to take our food to school. We went to the canteen. (had to - didn't have to - didn't need to)
3. All children must fasten their seatbelts when travelling by car. (have to- should- must)
4. You mustn't drink that. It's poison. (Must-should-mustn't)
5. Would I stay and help you or you can do it alone? (Should- Must- Would)
6. You can't be very rich to go skiing nowadays. (must not- have not-can not)
7. I can't go out now. I must do my homework, my mummy tells me. ( should - have to - must)
8. You mustn't use your flash inside the Museum, it's forbidden. (wouldn't -must-mustn't)
9. We have to be cautious. We shouldn't try and cross the river now. (have to- should- shouldn't)

3 Choose the right modals verb in brackets, and then answer the questions.

## MY BEST FRIENDS LIFE

I have many friends. But only two best friends. They are fond of dancing. They can (can/must) dance very well. They always make a scene. I will shortly tell you about one of them. She could (could/would) dance so well when she was little. She is 15 years old. She has danced for 10 years, but now she can't (shouldn't) do it. Because she is not allowed to dance, because she has a problem with her legs. The first time she danced. But then her legs started aching. Then she asked for advice to her mother. She sent her to doctor. And request her to really go. When she came to doctor she showed him her legs. The doctor prescribed her tablets. The Alesja asked him for permission to dance. She really needed to dance. The doctor said to her that that now she can't (wouldn't) dance but in the future she might dance. Now she is okey and she can dance. The doctor gave her permission for that. We are very happy that this situation ended well.



1. How many friends does she have got? Unspecified (many friends)
2. What can her best friends do? her best friends dance
3. Could she dance in this moment? no, she couldn't
4. Has she danced for twelve years? no, she hasn't danced for 12 years
5. Could she dance in the future? she could dance in the future

4 Imagine it is the year 3000. Describe how things are then.

- A. What people can/can't do; what they may wear.
- B. What education is like:  
What students have/don't have to do, must/must not do, etc.  
What teachers have/don't have to do, must/must not do, etc.
- C. The aspect of cities.
- D. Means of transport; cars, trains, planes, new means of transport (cars can fly)
- E. Jobs (workers have to...../don't have to .....; bosses have to../ don't have to.....). what offices or companies are like.
- F. What the weather may be like.
- G. Things that should be/shouldn't be different.

- A People can teleport
- D Cars can fly and teleport
- E Influencers is a new job
- F The weather is very hot
- G Respect and people's standards or living
- B Is presencial but with robots
- C cities have a skyscraper