

### MODAL VERBS

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

**SUGGESTIONS**  
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.

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

**Permissions and abilities 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.

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

### Activity

Match them.

1. ¿Te gustaria bailar conmigo?  
2. Yo puedo ayudar a tu mamá.  
3. Carlos puede comer después.  
4. Debes ser buen hijo.  
5. Yo deberia estudiar más.  
6. Ustedes deben llamar a la policia.  
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?

Pick the right Modals verb.

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

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

### MY BEST FRIENDS LIFE

Have many friends. But only two best friends. They are fond of dancing. They \_\_\_\_\_ can \_\_\_\_\_ 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 is not allowed to dance, because she has a problem with her legs. The first time she danced. But then her legs started achin. Then she asked for advice to her mother. Her mother 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. \_\_\_\_\_ wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ cause she really needed to dance. The doctor said to her that that now she \_\_\_\_\_ wouldn't \_\_\_\_\_ dance but in the future she might dance. She is okey and she can dance. The doctor gave her permission for that. We are very happy that the situation ended well.

1. How many friends does she have got? two best friends

2. What can her best friends do? Dance very well

3. Could she dance in this moment? Not, because is not allowed to dance

4. Has she danced for twelve years? Not, has chance for ten years

5. Could she dance in the future? Maybe, dance

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.

\*Notebooks are not longer used to help the environment everything is technological  
\*they cannot throw the garbage bags on the street  
\*they will have to go to a specific place  
\*they will be very clean and with little contamination  
\*The means of transport will be by train and plane for more security  
\*workers will be smarter by new technology they will be able to better manage companies  
\*a stable warm climate for nature and us as humans  
\*the bigger houses should be different to be able to accommodate better  
\*virtual classes should not be different as face-to-face