

MODAL VERBS

Modal verbs	Uses	Examples
1. can / can't	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability - Possibility - Inability / Impossibility - Asking for permission - Request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I can speak 3 different languages. - I can come by bus. - I can't drive. - Can I go to the toilets please ? - Can you help me?
2. could / couldn't	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asking for permission - Request - Suggestion - Ability in the past - Future possibility - Conditional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Could I open the window? - Could you repeat please ? - We could bring her some flowers. - He could run 10 km by the age of 15. - A civil War could break out in Libya. - I could come with you if I had more time.
3. be allowed to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You aren't allowed to smoke here.
4. will	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instant decisions - Offer - Promise - Certain prediction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It's hot and sunny so I'll go to work on foot. - I'll cook the dinner for you. - I'll ring you tonight. - I'm sure it'll rain tomorrow.
5. would	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asking for permission - Request - Making arrangements - Invitations - Conditional 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would it be OK if I left work a bit earlier today? - Would you fetch me that bottle please? - Would six o'clock suit you ? - Would you like to go for a walk tomorrow ? - If I were you, I would tell him the truth.
6. must	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Necessity / Obligation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - She must leave now.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prohibition - Certainty - Strong recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You mustn't enter this room. - This must be the right solution! - You must stay at home if you're sick.
7. have to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certainty - Necessity - Obligation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This has to be the correct solution. - She has to do more exercise to lose weight. - Children have to learn their vocabulary for the next class.
8. ought to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation - Probability - Advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You ought to stop smoking. - She ought to have received my e-mail by now. - Anna ought to sleep more.
9. shall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Offer - Suggestion - Promise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shall I help you with your homework? - Shall we go out for dinner? - I shall never forget you.
10. should	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation - Advice - Expectation - Mild obligation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You should phone your grandparents more often. - You should stop smoking. - By now, she should already have taken the exam. - I should be at home by 08.00 PM.