

MODAL VERBS

Can

Can is a modal verb. It is used in ability, inability and permission.

Functions	Examples
Ability	I can lift this box. We can solve this sum.
Inability	We can't give extra time. I can't allow you to go.
Permission	He can go now

May

May is a modal verb. It role many functions such as seek permission, give permission, possibility, prayer, wish etc.

Functions	Examples
Seek permission	May I come in? May we play hockey?
Give permission	you may go now. You may take tea now.
Possibility	He may come any moment. It may rain today.
Prayer	May you live long!
Wish	May Allah bless you with success!

Used To

Used to is a modal verb.

Functions	Examples
Past habit	I used to play hockey in my youth. We used to go to school daily.

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Might

Might is a modal verb. it is used as a possibility, permission, suggestion.

Functions	Examples
Possibility	I thought that it might rain that day.
Permission	He asked me if she might go.
Suggestion	You might go to Dubai for training.

Could

Could is also a modal verb it is used in permission like might modal verb, used as request, capability.

Functions	Examples
Permission	Could I borrow your book?
Request	Could you please come early?
Capability	I could climb this hill then.

Dare

Dare is a modal verb it is used in courage and bravery.

Functions	Examples
Courage/ Bravery	we dare not call you. Dare you write us and complain?

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Must

Must is a modal verb. It performs many functions like necessity, prohibition, obligation, determination.

Functions	Examples
Necessity	We must leave for Multan now.
Prohibition	Visitors must not litter the park.
Obligation	We must go there.
Determination	I must get this book.

Ought to

Ought (To) is a modal verb. It has many functions such as moral obligation, suggestion, and desirability.

Functions	Examples
Moral obligation	we ought to obey our elders. She ought to love her mother.
Suggestion	You ought not to kill animals.
Desirability	We ought to help the needv.

Will

It is used in daily life speaking like simple future, consent, habit, request, promise, determination.

Functions	Examples
Simple future	He will come soon. Tomorrow will be Monday.
Consent	He will take these books. They will prefer to go there.
Habit	He will talk about nothing but films

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Shall

Shall can be used as simple future tenses, suggestion, promise, command, threat, Revenge.

Functions	Examples
Simple future	we shall work.
Suggestion	Where shall we go?
Promise	He shall give me a present.
Command	You shall not sit here.
Threat	You shall be punished for your mistake.
Revenge	They shall beat you if you cause them any harm.

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Should

Should is a modal verb. It has six functions like will modal verbs, first is used in suggestion, obligation duty, polite needs, past obligation, Probability, surprise.

Functions

Examples

Suggestion

We should abide by the law.

Obligation Duty

We should obey our parents
and teachers.

We should love the young.

Polite Needs

I should like you to obey your
parents.

I should like him to work hard.

Past Obligation

You should have helped me in
trouble.

Probability

You should be in England now.

Surprise

He should be in Karachi now!
I am wondered that you should
have acted so stupidly.

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Would

Would is a modal verb. It is used in desire, polite request, past of will, Equivalent to will, habit, conditional, past obligation.

Functions

Examples

Desire

I wish, you would reach in time.
Would that I was a king!

Polite request

would you please lend me your camera?
Would you please lend me your books?

Past of will

He asked me if I would accompany him to Multan.

Equivalent to will

I hope that he would come here.
I would like you to accompany me.

Habit

My mother would wash clothes daily.

Conditional

If I had to leave, I would probably go to America.

Past Obligation

I would often go out for a walk.
You would have gone to Karachi.

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Need

Need is a modal verb. It has two functions obligation, necessity.

Functions	Examples
Obligation	You need not come here.
Necessity	I need hardly take you watch. You need not take the exam if you don't want to.

Modal verbs

Modal verbs or Modals are those helping verbs which help to express the mode or manner in which the action is done. They are “can, could, may, might, will, would, shall, should, must, ought to, used to, need, dare” they modify the meaning of the main verb.

They are used before ordinary verbs and express meanings such as permission, prohibition, negation desire, necessity, obligation, suggestion and habit etc. they have only one form. They do not indicate person, number, voice or aspect.

MODAL VERBS

Modal Verbs Exercise

----- You like to come with me for a walk?

He----- reach tomorrow?

They ----- save some money for rainy days.

The manager said that I ----- leave the office whenever I wanted.

----- You help me now.

----- I use your mobile phone?

He prayed that it ----- rain that day.

It V rain tomorrow.

There is no ----- for us to come to office tomorrow.

----- Allah makes you prosperous!

She -----work seriously or she will lose her job.

We ----- type all the latter's today only there will do.

You ----- not worry about my health.

You ----- be punctual in your duty.

----- That he had come soon!

----- You please pass over the salt.

----- I go out for a picnic?

She ----- not enter my office.

When he was young he ----- play a lot of cricket.

We ----- avenge the wrongs done to us.

We ----- get up early to maintain our health.

They ----- watch many movies in their youth.

It ----- rain today.

They ----- be at home by now.

You ----- respect the laws of the country.

He said that he ----- not accompany me.