

MODAL VERBS

➤ What are the main characteristics of modals verbs?

FUNCTIONS	SHORT	NEGATIVE	S	INTERROGATIVE	AUXILIARY VERB
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1. They are always followed by the _____ infinitive. (MUST **WRITE**, not ~~MUST TO WRITE~~)
2. They never use an " _____ " for the 3rd person singular.
3. They don't need an _____ verb (*have, is*) to form the _____ or the _____.
4. Why are they so special? Because they have many _____.

➤ As you read through the examples below, write down the functions of the modal verbs. Choose from the boxes:

CAN / COULD

negative logical assumption	repeated past ability	past ability (happened just once)	possibility
polite request	prohibition	present (in)ability	permission

- Francisca can speak five languages, but she can't speak Russian. _____
- When I was younger, I could read without glasses. _____
- Dad didn't have any money on him, but fortunately he was able to use his credit card to pay the bill. _____
- You can only use your phone during the break. _____
- We'd better go for walk now, it could rain later. _____
- Could you close the door, please? _____
- You can't go in there – it says 'No entry!' _____
- You can't be tired, you have just got out of bed! _____

MAY / MIGHT

prohibition	possibility	permission	criticism
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- When you have answered all the questions, you may leave the room. _____
- I may come and visit you next summer. _____
- You might have told me you weren't coming! _____
- You may not park here. _____

MUST

duty	external obligation	affirmative logical assumption	internal obligation
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Teacher: "You have to do your homework or else you will fail this class!" _____

Student: "I have a lot of homework which I must do for Monday. I'll find the time!" _____

You mustn't tell lies! _____

She's been in over 15 films, so she must be very well-known. _____

SHALL

asking for advice/suggestions	offer	command/order
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Shall I/we help you? _____

What shall I/we do next? _____

You shall do exactly as I say! _____

SHOULD / OUGHT TO

advice / suggestion (x2)	logical assumption
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You should go to bed early. _____

He ought to apologise for his rude remarks. _____

She left hours ago, she should be at home now. _____

WILL / WOULD

past habit	certainty	advice / suggestion	present habit	refusal	request
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Every day is the same: he will sit in front of the window for hours. _____

When I was ten, I would go swimming every weekend. _____

That will be Maria on the phone, she said she'd call. _____

Will you do me a favour? _____

She is very rude, I won't talk to her again! _____

If I were you, I would ask for her opinion as well. _____