

GRAMMAR QUIZ- MODAL VERBS

I. Read the examples below and complete the tables with the missing verb forms.

- 1) You **don't need to** buy ski equipment; you can rent equipment at the resort.
- 2) All participants **have to** arrive at the starting point 30 minutes before the race begins.
- 3) Excuse me. **Would** you show me how the game is played?
- 4) **May** I use your mobile phone for a minute?
- 5) You'd **better** do some warm-up exercises first, or else you'll pull a muscle.
- 6) You **mustn't** use your hands when playing football. It is against the rules.
- 7) When I was younger. I **could** run non-stop for two kilometres, but now I can't.

ABILITY /INABILITY	
PRESENT / FUTURE	PAST
Can't Am/is/are (not) able to	_____ (n't) Was /were (not) able to

OBLIGATION / NECESSITY	
PRESENT / FUTURE	PAST
Need to Must _____	Had to Needed to

ABSENCE OF OBLIGATION / NECESSITY	
PRESENT / FUTURE	PAST
Don't have to _____ Needn't	Didn't have to Didn't need to

PROHIBITION	PERMISSION
_____ Can't	Can Could _____ Might

REQUESTS	ADVICE / OPINION
Can	Should (n't)
Could	Ought (not) to
May	_____ (not)
Will	

II. Read the examples and match the verb forms in blue with what they express. Write a-d

- 1) The Tigers **must be** the winners of the championship; I just turned on the TV and saw them celebrating on the field. ☐
- 2) The tigers **may / might / could be** the winners of the championship; there are a few other good teams, but I believe the Tigers have a great chance. ☐
- 3) The tigers **will be** the winners of the championship; they're the best team ever, so there's no doubt about it. ☐
- 4) The tigers **can't be** the winners of the championship; they played terribly this season! ☐

- a.** Certainty (we are absolutely sure about something)
- b** Positive deduction (we are almost sure that something is true)
- c** Possibility (something is possible to happen but we are not sure)
- d** Negative deduction (We are almost sure that something is not true)

III. Read and choose the correct options.

A: I bought this great book with different diets and tips, and I found a diet I think I'll **need** / **be able** to stick to this time.

B: It **could** / **had better** be an easy one! You **didn't have to** / **weren't able to** keep up any of the other diets you've tried.

A: I know, but this time I'm confident. And you know how people say we **might** / **should** sleep at least eight hours a night? Well, they're right.

B: Sure, but it is not always easy. For example, I **have to** / **can** get up really early in the morning every day and I **can't** / **mustn't** always go to bed early.

A: Yes, but studies show that weight gain **had to** / **may** be related to lack of sleep. A good night's sleep helps burn fat, as well as reduce your appetite for unhealthy high-sugar food.

B: OK, but **could** / **should** I ask you a question? What does this book of yours say you **had better** / **ought** to do when it's not possible to get enough sleep?

A: You **needn't** / **might not** worry. If that is the case, it says that you **could** / **must** ensure a good night's sleep by drinking a relaxing herbal tea. You won't sleep any longer than usual, but it **will** / **must** definitely help you sleep more deeply, which means you'll be better rested.

B: That **can't** / **mustn't** be true. It doesn't sound very convincing to me.

A: You don't think so? It says here that people who get stomach aches easily **needn't** / **shouldn't** try it without asking a doctor first. But I don't have a problem so I'm going to give it a go. I'm positive it **can** / **will** work. Would you like me to buy some herbal tea for you, too?

B: No thanks. If I **need** / **ought** to lose weight. I'll just go to the gym.

IV. MODAL VERBS + HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE

Read the sentences and complete the gaps with the missing modal verbs.

- 1) Patrick **could have broken** his leg when he fell off the motorbike, but fortunately he didn't.
- 2) You **can't have seen** Sally today. She's at a spa resort.
- 3) I **should have gone** to bed earlier last night so I wouldn't be so tired right now.
- 4) You **must have heard** of him. He was a famous swimmer.
- 5) My sister **might have tried** this diet before but I'm not 100% certain.
- 6) Kelly **needn't have bought** a tent for the camping trip. I have one.

Regret or criticism about an action or somebody's behavior **in the past**

_____ or ought (not) to + have + past participle

Absence of necessity in the past (something wasn't necessary
but it was done)

_____ + have + past participle

Possibility in the past (perhaps something happened but we are
not sure)

May or _____ + have + past participle

Unfulfilled possibility in the past (It was possible for something
to happen but it didn't)

_____ + have + past participle

Positive deduction in the past (we are almost sure that
something happened)

_____ + have + past participle

_____ or couldn't + have + past participle

1) He _____ register for the course online because the website had crashed.

- 2) Those of you who want to pass the exam _____ start studying.

- 3) We _____ buy any camping gear in the end. We borrowed everything from my cousin

- 4) You _____ take any photographs at the event, but you are free to do so if you like.

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5) I'm really hungry _____ I have another piece of chicken?

- a) Would
- b) Should
- c) May
- d) Must

6) You should _____ your boss that you were going to be late.

- a) inform
- b) to inform
- c) inform
- d) have informed

7) Greg and kyle _____ each other. I saw them talking earlier.

- a) must know
- b) must have known
- c) they might know
- d) might have known

8) You _____ been killed if you had fallen off that cliff. You should watch your step.

- a) may
- b) may have
- c) could
- d) could have

9) He _____ have been at work yesterday because he told me he would be out of town

- a) needn't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't
- d) can't