

MODAL VERBS

Modal verbs are types of auxiliary verbs which express necessity, ability, permission or possibility. We also use them to make requests and offers. The most common modal verbs are can, may and must. Modal verbs don't have a past form (except can) and a past participle (3rd form). You can only use them with the present tense. When you use other tenses, you have to replace them.

CAN - MAY - MUST

No -s after he, she, it

He can speak English. - She may go there. - It must sleep now. - My sister can juggle.

No do, does in questions and negation

Can you come? Sorry, I cannot. - May he come to your party? No, he must not.

She cannot come at 10.

REPLACEMENTS

CAN – TO BE ABLE TO

I can drive. = I am able to drive.

	Present tense	Past tense	Present perfect	Will - future
I	am able to drive.	was able to	have been able to	will be able to
He, she, it	is able to drive.	was able to	has been able to	will be able to
You, we, they	are able to drive.	were able to	have been able to	will be able to

MUST – HAVE TO

I must learn. = I have to learn.

	Present tense	Past tense	Present perfect	Will – future
I, you, we, they	have to learn.	had to learn.	have had to learn.	will have to learn.
He, she, it	has to learn.	had to learn.	has had to learn.	will have to learn.

MAY – BE ALLOWED TO

I may go out. = I am allowed to go out.

	Present tense	Past tense	Present perfect	Will – future
I	am allowed to	was allowed to	have been allowed to	will be allowed to
he, she, it	is allowed to	was allowed to	has been allowed to	will be allowed to
you, we, they	are allowed to	were allowed to	have been allowed to	will be allowed to

MODAL VERBS 1

Put the modal verbs into the tenses.

Present simple: I can speak English.

Past simple: _____

Present perfect simple: _____

Will-Future: _____

Present simple: He must learn for the test.

Past simple: _____

Present perfect simple: _____

Will-Future: _____

Present simple: I may go to the party.

Past simple: _____

Present perfect simple: _____

Will-Future: _____

Present simple: We can help you in the garden.

Past simple: _____

Present perfect simple: _____

Will-Future: _____

Present simple: She may invite friends.

Past simple: _____

Present perfect simple: _____

Will-Future: _____