

Modals 3: certainty and possibility; ability certainty and possibility; ability (Practice)

Exercise 1: Choose the correct verbs.

Carlotta: I can't find my keys and I'm late. There (1) **might / must be** a lot of traffic in town so I need to hurry. They're not in my bag so they (2) **must / can't be** in the flat somewhere.

George: Have you looked in the kitchen?

Carlotta: They (3) **can't/could** be there because I haven't been in the kitchen.

They (4) **must/might** be in the bedroom because I changed my clothes there or they

(5) **could/must be** on the table in the hall. I'll go and look. No, they're not there.

George: Did you leave them in the car?

Carlotta: They (6) **could/can't** be in the car because I opened the door with them. They

(7) **can't/must** be here somewhere.

George: I can't see them. Let's think. They (8) **might/can't be** in your coat pocket

because you weren't wearing one but they (9) **can't/might be** in your jeans pocket. Have you looked there?

Carlotta: Oh, thanks. I've found them. I (10) **can/may** be home a bit late tonight. Bye.



Exercise 2: Write can, can't, could, or couldn't in the spaces.

1 I'm sorry I **can't** come to your party. I'm busy on Saturday.

2 You sing much better than that when you were younger.

3 Rachel's son counts to 20 and he's only two!

- 4 We didn't speak the language so we understand what the woman said.
- 5 you read that notice from here? I haven't got my glasses with me.
- 6 I know that man but I remember his name.
- 7 Anne-Marie likes to sit close to the stage so she see the actors' faces clearly.
- 8 I'm afraid of going on a boat because I swim.
- 9 When I was a teenager I walked everywhere because I drive.
- 10 you write your name when you started school?
- 11 He looked everywhere for the ring but he find it.
- 12 you open this window? I've tried, but it's too heavy

Exercise 3: Fill in the gaps with words from the box.

are be is to be hasn't been haven't been isn't will
weren't wasn't won't be ~~were~~

- 1 None of the students able to read the teacher's writing.
- 2 Your sister speaks very good Spanish. you able to speak any foreign languages?
- 3 you be able to finish that homework by tomorrow?
- 4 They able to see anything from the plane because it was cloudy.
- 5 I'm sorry, I able to come to your wedding next month because I've got exams.
- 6 He able to take a holiday since last summer.
- 7 If you want to do the diving course, you have able to swim.
- 8 I looked everywhere but I able to find the photograph because Laura had it.
- 9 Rebecca able to lend you some money or do you want me to give you some?
- 10 Let's phone the theatre. We may able to get seats for tonight.
- 11 I wanted to invite James but I able to contact him.
- 12 The manager able to see you now. Can you come back tomorrow?