Auxiliary verbs

Auxiliary verbs, including modal auxiliaries, are always followed by another auxiliary or a main verb. The only exception is BE, which can be the only verb in the sentence:

I **am** at the cinema, there **are** a lot of people here today.

Each auxiliary verb is followed by a specific form of the verb: infinitive (V_{inf}), infinitive with TO (V_{to+inf}), gerund (V_{-ing}), or past participle (V_{-en}):

Auxiliary verb	Forms	Examples
HAVE + V_{-en} (perfect tenses)	have has had having	I **have seen** that film very recently. The dog **has broken** the remote control. I **had forgotten** my book at school. **Having said** that, we need to make a decision.
DO + V_{inf} (present & past simple)	do does did	**Do** you **want** to dance? **Does** he **drive**? I **didn't say** that.
WILL + V_{inf} (future)	will	**Will** you **help** me with these boxes, please?
WOULD + V_{inf} (conditional)	would	**Would** you **explain** that again, please?
Modals[1] + V_{inf}	can could must may might will would shall should had better need[1]	I **can play** the guitar. She **could swim** when she was three years old. We **must think** about it. It **may snow** tonight. This **might be** useful. I **will tell** you tomorrow. I **would ask** someone for help. Where **shall** we **go** now? You **should buy** a new coat. I **had better go**, it's getting late. You **needn't say** anything.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Modals[2] + V_{to+inf}	have to ought to be able to need[2] to	I **have to finish** these reports for tomorrow. You **ought to see** the baby elephant! Will you **be able to come** at six? You **don't need to say** anything.
BE + V_{-ing} (continuous tenses)	am is are was were being been	I **am writing** an example. He **is looking** out of the window. They **are playing** the flute. She **was waiting** for the bus. We **were watching** a film. You **are being** silly, aren't you? They have **been working** all evening.
BE + V_{-en} (passive voice)	am is are was were being been	I **am confused** by those symbols. It **is considered** very dangerous. They **are broken** down by enzymes. The news **was forgotten** very quickly. We **were given** detailed instructions. It is **being analysed**. It has **been forbidden** because of health risks.
BE GOING + V_{to+inf}	be going to	We **are going to have** dinner at a restaurant.

[1,2] "Need" can work as an auxiliary (needn't) or as a main verb (don't need to).

a) Complete this summary with these verb forms:

an infinitive	an infinitive	a past participle (V_{-en})
an infinitive	a gerund (V_{-ing})	a past participle (V_{-en})

After **be / is / was...** we use _____ or _____.

After **do / does / did** we use _____ .

After **have / has / had** we use _____ .

After **can / must / have to...** we use _____ .

After **be going to...** we use _____ .

b) Choose the correct form of each verb:

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1.- They should _____ _____ me they _____ _____ . If I _____ _____ yesterday, I _____ _____ _____ a chocolate cake. Their kids _____ it!

2.- I _____ _____ _____ about what _____ yesterday, and I _____ _____ _____ to her for what I _____ . I really _____ _____ _____ her that her problems _____ none of my business. She _____ _____ _____ I _____ a terribly rude person.

3.- The volcano _____ _____ _____ lava for over two months now, and it _____ _____ any signs of _____ near the end of its eruption yet. Thousands of people _____ _____ _____ _____ because their homes _____ _____ _____ by the lava, and they _____ _____ when the government's help _____ _____ among them. Meanwhile, volunteers who _____ _____ to the island _____ _____ to _____ the ash from the rooftops so that they _____ _____ under its weight.

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4.- My English teacher _____ _____ to school yesterday. We _____ happy because we _____ we _____ _____ _____ a free period, but then the teacher on duty _____ and _____ us that he _____ _____ some photocopies with exercises for us. In the end we _____ the whole period _____ . Today we _____ _____ a lesson, but I hope that he _____ _____ tomorrow. His lessons _____ usually less boring!

5.- I _____ _____ _____ about my problems to learn new vocabulary, and I _____ _____ the conclusion that I _____ _____ a different technique. _____ lists of vocabulary just _____ _____ _____ _____ . I _____ _____ _____ _____ a vocabulary book. This is how it _____ : you _____ some new words, you _____ or _____ a sentence with each of them, and you _____ those sentences every day for five or ten minutes. If you _____ them, you _____ _____ able _____ translation, too. You _____ _____ the translations on a separate page. I hope it _____ _____ !

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