

Modal verbs



REMEMBER that MODAL VERBS...

.....don't take "s" at the end of the third person (he/she/it)

.....are followed by the verbs in base form

TASK A. It is possible to form 16 modal verbs with the letters of the box. They can be used several times.

M S D Y I T U H A G
L B O V W C E N R P

TASK B. Order these modal verbs according to the percentage of probability.

(be going to, may, could, can, should, will, might, will, have to, ought to)

100 %	_____

95 %	_____

90 %	_____

+50 %	_____

-50 %	_____

TASK C. Fill in the gaps with one of the following modal verbs: *can/ could/ have to/ must/ might/ should*.

- Ted's flight took more than 11 hours. He _____ be exhausted after such a long flight.
- If the plants don't get enough water, they _____ die.
- Where is the spatula? It _____ be in this drawer but here is nothing.
- You _____ take your umbrella with you today, because a storm is predicted.
- Jenny's engagement ring is enormous! It _____ have cost a fortune.
- When you have a small child in the house, you _____ leave small objects lying around.
- _____ you hold your breath for more than a minute?
- I _____ buy a new TV. Mine isn't working properly.
- My professor said we _____ read it if we need extra credit.
- We _____ go now, if we don't want to lose the Train.

TASK D. Choose the most appropriate option for each sentence.

1. You don't look well, you _____ see a doctor. (advice)
a. should b. could c. can
2. Whose notebook is this? – I am not sure. It _____ be Manfred's. (possibility)
a. must b. ought to c. might
3. She _____ stay at home tonight, because her son is sick. (necessity)
a. should b. has to c. may
4. You _____ interrupt the principal when he is a meeting. (prohibition)
a. may not b. won't c. mustn't
5. You _____ leave work at 4 pm today. (permission)
a. could b. can c. shall
6. Although he is ill, he _____ run 5 km without problems. (ability)
a. should b. might c. can
7. _____ you bring a me a glass of water?. (request)
a. could b. will c. should
8. If you don't know what to do, you _____ ask for advice to your father (suggestion)
a. can b. should c. have to
9. Diego's mother told him that he _____ be at home at 11 pm. (obligation)
a. ought to b. has to c. can
10. It's cold. _____ you close the window? (order)
a. must b. might c. can

TASK E. Underline the best option for the next sentences.

1. I didn't feel very well yesterday. I couldn't / mustn't eat anything
2. You should / could look at me when I am talking to you.
3. I was using my pencil one minute ago. It must / could be here.
4. You really mustn't / shouldn't be late again.
5. If you don't start working harder, you will have to / might repeat the course next year.
6. Phone her now. She must / has to be at home now.
7. I might / can be able to help you, but I'm not sure yet.
8. I really must / may try to get fit.
9. You shouldn't / don't have to eat so much chocolate. It's not good for you.
10. It's very important to be able to / can speak more than one language.

TASK F. Match the questions of the first column with the correct answer of the second one.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Can you speak Italian? | _____ A. Yes, because it's my best friend party. |
| 2. May I go to the bathroom Mr. Jones? | _____ B. Sorry, I don't know where I left it. |
| 3. What time should the meeting begin? | _____ C. No, I speak French and German. |
| 4. May I have another piece of cake? | _____ D. Yes, please. |
| 5. Would you pass the pepper please? | _____ E. Because it is the company anniversary. |
| 6. Shall I help you with that package? | _____ F. It is supposed to begin at 9:30. |
| 7. Could I borrow your camera? | _____ G. Yes, of course. |
| 8. Shall we discuss this later? | _____ H. Sure, there is a lot. |
| 9. Why don't we have to work today? | _____ I. No, it is really important. |
| 10. Must you go to that party? | _____ J. Sure, you may. |