

UNIT 4 – Modal verbs

1 Find the verb that doesn't fit in each set.

Modals ...

- 1 for ability: **A** must **B** be able to **C** can/can't
D could/couldn't
- 2 for permission: **A** may **B** be allowed/permited to
C had better (not) **D** can
- 3 for prohibition: **A** mustn't **B** can't **C** don't need to
D not be allowed/permited to **E** may not
- 4 to show obligation: **A** must **B** have (got) to
C should have **D** need to
- 5 to show no obligation: **A** couldn't
B don't have to/haven't got to **C** don't need to/needn't
- 6 for advice: **A** should/shouldn't **B** can
C ought (not) to **D** had better (not)
- 7 to show regrets about the past: **A** would
B should/shouldn't have
- 8 to make requests: **A** will **B** would **C** may

2 4.1 Listen and match the sentences (A–E) with the conversations (1–5). Then choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

1 3 5
2 4

A You can't / must go on the ride.
B You shouldn't / couldn't have eaten so much.
C May / Should I ask you one more question?
D You are not permitted / allowed to enter here.
E We've got to / We needn't leave now.

3 Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

- 1 You spend too much time on your computer. You **should** / **can't** spend more time outdoors.
- 2 My parents were very strict when I was younger so I **can** / **couldn't** stay out late.
- 3 The bus leaves at nine, so we **mustn't** / **don't need** to be late.
- 4 Tom is great at scoring goals, but he **can't** / **couldn't** run very fast.
- 5 **Must** / **Would** you pass me the salt, please?
- 6 Thanks for the invitation, but I **shouldn't** / **had better** ask my parents before I say yes.
- 7 Do you think you **were allowed** / **will be allowed** to come with us next Saturday?
- 8 We **have to** / **needn't** worry about food, because my mum says she'll buy us pizzas.
- 9 My sister **can** / **was able to** swim when she was only three years old.
- 10 **May** / **Should** I open the window, please? I feel a bit faint and I need some fresh air.

4 Complete the online post with one word in each gap.



Zander_03 Hi everyone! I want to give you all an update on my last post. My school has given me some special rules for when I do exams. First, I ¹..... be allowed to use my laptop for written exams. This is great because I don't need ²..... worry about my handwriting. I must take exams in the exam hall, but I don't ³..... to finish at the same time as everyone else – I can have an extra 45 minutes. I'm so happy about this, because last year I ⁴..... only able to answer half of the questions – I ⁵..... to read the text and the questions in a time limit, but I couldn't do it. I hope I'll ⁶..... able to get much better grades this year. Anyway, I ⁷..... better get on with my revision now. I've ⁸..... to prepare for the history exam!

5 Choose the correct answers (A, B or C) to complete the conversation.

What time are you going to the pool?

I'm not going. I ¹..... to finish an essay tonight.

But the coach said that we all ²..... to go to the training session, or we ³..... compete on Saturday.

I know, but I ⁴..... get this done today because my teacher wants to see it tomorrow. I ⁵..... written it last weekend, but I didn't feel like it.

You ⁶..... to talk to your teacher and explain the situation.

That's not the problem. My mum said I ⁷..... to go to training. She thinks that school ⁸..... come first.

Well, she's right, I guess.

Yeah, but it's hard when school and swimming have so many rules! ⁹..... you tell the coach why I can't come, please?

1 A have got	B mustn't	C need to
2 A need	B must	C should
3 A shouldn't	B can't	C may not
4 A can	B should	C must
5 A could	B would	C should have
6 A should	B ought	C better
7 A had better	B can	C am not allowed
8 A able to	B should	C allowed
9 A Would	B May	C Have