

## Modal Verbs: revision

### 1. ABILITY:

Can / can't, Could / couldn't, [be] able to.

- When Robert was younger he \_\_\_\_\_ run very fast.
- How long have you \_\_\_\_\_ play the guitar?
- Look! I \_\_\_\_\_ lift this chair with one hand.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ put out the fire before much damage was done.

### 2. PERMISSION: Can, could, may, might.

- I sit here?
- I have a look at your magazine?
- I try this on?
- borrow your dictionary for a while?

### 3. OBLIGATION & NECESSITY:

must, have to

- You \_\_\_\_\_ get a visa to visit the United States.
- It's getting late. We \_\_\_\_\_ go now.
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_ stay in bed yesterday because she had a bad cold.
- Mr Mason \_\_\_\_\_ wear glasses since he was a child.

### 4. OBLIGATION & NECESSITY:

mustn't, don't have to, don't need to (needn't to)

- You \_\_\_\_\_ open the door before the train stops. You could fall out.
- We \_\_\_\_\_ hurry. We have got plenty of time.
- You \_\_\_\_\_ tell Nicky about the party. I've already phoned her.
- I \_\_\_\_\_ get up early tomorrow.



### 5. POSSIBILITY:

may (+++), might (++) , could (+).

- Perhaps he is ill. (may)
- Perhaps they went out. (might)
- Perhaps he doesn't know the address. (may)
- Perhaps they are going on holiday. (could)
- Perhaps she didn't catch the bus. (may)

### 6. POSSIBILITY:

can, could

- Elephants \_\_\_\_\_ live for up to 70 years.
- Temperatures in the South Pole \_\_\_\_\_ reach minus 43 degrees centigrade.
- A hundred years ago ships \_\_\_\_\_ cross the Atlantic in ten days.
- Dinosaurs \_\_\_\_\_ reach up to 5 metres long.

### 7. DEDUCTION: must, can't

- The lights are on in the house, so they \_\_\_\_\_ be at home.
- He \_\_\_\_\_ know Dublin very well. He's lived there all his life.
- You've just had dinner. You \_\_\_\_\_ be hungry already.
- Those shoes you are wearing are very nice. They \_\_\_\_\_ cost you a fortune.

8. Rephrase the sentences using the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

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- Perhaps she'll phone later. [might] \_\_\_\_\_
- I'll probably be at home at six. [should] \_\_\_\_\_
- Perhaps they went home. [could] \_\_\_\_\_
- It's impossible that he's telling the truth. [can't] \_\_\_\_\_
- I'm sure you've heard the news. [must] \_\_\_\_\_
- Perhaps I won't go out this evening. [may] \_\_\_\_\_
- It's impossible that she saw us. [can't] \_\_\_\_\_
- I'm sure the bus has already left. [must] \_\_\_\_\_
- Perhaps he was not qualified for the job. [might] \_\_\_\_\_
- She'll probably here soon. [ought to] \_\_\_\_\_

9. USED TO - Study the model sentences:

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Cantona **USED TO PLAY** for Manchester United, but he doesn't now.

Sam **DIDN'T USE TO EAT** much fruit but he has a much healthier diet now.

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Complete the following ones with USED TO / DIDN'T USE TO and a suitable verb.

- Gary \_\_\_\_\_ (work) here, but he's got a new job now.
- Ann \_\_\_\_\_ (walk) much, but she walks for or five kilometres a day now.
- They are poor now, but they \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a lot of money.
- They \_\_\_\_\_ (not + go) camping, but they have bought a camper van and they have even joined a club.

10. USED TO / WOULD - Study the model sentences:

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My grandfather **USED TO BE** a policeman. / Sam **USED TO HAVE** a moustache.

When I was a child, my neighbours **USED TO TAKE** us to the cinema every Saturday.

(= When I was a child, my neighbours **WOULD TAKE** us to the cinema every Saturday.)

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Complete the following ones with USED TO / WOULD.

- That shop \_\_\_\_\_ be a grocer's when I was a child, now it's a supermarket.
- \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ enjoy history lessons when you were at secondary school?
- When I was little, I \_\_\_\_\_ be afraid of the dark.
- When we were children we \_\_\_\_\_ visit my grandmother every Sunday.
- Mrs Wood was a real chatterbox! She \_\_\_\_\_ spend hours speaking about anything.
- My sister (not) \_\_\_\_\_ like fish when she was a child.

11. BE USED TO / GET USED TO - Study the model sentences:

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I **WAS** **USED TO** DRIVING small cars. / Sam **ISN'T** **USED TO** **WORKING** at night.

She says she **WILL** never **GET** **USED TO** **WORKING** the night shift.

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Translate into English:

(1) Ella solía ser muy estudiosa. (2) Él no está acostumbrado a hablar en público. (3) Nosotros nos acostumbramos a la vida en la aldea rápidamente. (4) Cuando éramos pequeños, íbamos a merendar a la playa todas las tardes. (5) Ella no solía comportarse tan testarudamente. (6) En tres semanas te acostumbrarás a tus nuevos profesores.

Suggested answers:

- 1) She used to be very studious / She used to be a very good student.
- 2) He is not used to speaking in public/ ... in front of an audience.
- 3) We got used to the life in the village quickly.
- 4) When we were little kids, we used to go (/ we would go...) for a picnic on the beach every afternoon.
- 5) She didn't use to behave so stubbornly.
- 6) In three weeks' time (In three weeks), you will get used to your new teachers.