

MODAL VERBS – ĐỘNG TỪ KHUYẾT THIỂU

Model Verbs	Chức năng	Ví dụ	Chú ý
Can	Có thể - Diễn tả khả năng - Ở hiện tại, tương lai	You can speak Spanish. It can rain.	- Can/ Could dùng trong câu đề nghị, xin phép, yêu cầu. Ví dụ: - Could you please wait a moment? - Can I ask you a question? → Could lịch sự hơn Can
Could	Có thể - Quá khứ của Can - Diễn tả khả năng xảy ra trong quá khứ	My brother could speak English when he was five.	
Must	Phải (chủ quan, tự mình thấy vậy) - Diễn đạt sự cần thiết, bắt buộc - Suy luận mang tính chắc chắn, yêu cầu được nhấn mạnh	I must get up early in the morning. You must be hungry after work hard. You must be here before 8.	Mustn't – cấm, không được phép
Have to	Phải (khách quan, do nội quy, quy định)	I have to stop smoking. My doctor said that.	
May	Có lẽ, có thể (ít khả năng hơn Can) - Xin phép	May I call her?	- May/ might dùng để xin phép. Nhưng might ít được dùng trong văn nói, chủ yếu trong câu gián tiếp: May I turn on TV? I wonder if he might go there alone.
Might	Có lẽ, có thể - Quá khứ của May - Khi không phải quá khứ của May, thì khả năng sẽ ít hơn “May”	She might not be his house.	
Should	Nên - Lời khuyên, ý kiến - Suy đoán - Chỉ sự bắt buộc nhưng nhẹ hơn “Must”	You should send this report by 8 th September. You should call her. She worked hard, she should get the best result.	

Ought to	Nên Mạnh hơn “Should” nhưng chưa bằng “Must”	You ought not to eat candy at night.	
Need	Cần	You needn’t go yet. You don’t need to go.	Need + V → need là động từ khuyết thiếu Need + to V → need là động từ tường
Had better	Nên = should	You had better not go out late at night.	Thường không dùng câu (?)
Be able to	Có thể - Có thể thay thế “can”, “could”. - Thường dùng khi nói khả năng đạt được khi luyện tập, chuẩn bị, cố gắng	- She was able to sing when she was five. - They fire spread through the building quickly but everybody was able to escape.	

EXERCISE

1. She ____ be ill. I have just seen her playing basket ball in the school yard.
a. needn't b. shouldn't c. mustn't d. can't
2. Hiking the trail to the peak ____ be dangerous if you are not well prepared for dramatic weather changes. You ____ research the route a little more before you attempt the ascent.
a. might / can b. may / mustn't c. can / should d. must / needn't
3. Peter has been working for 10 hours. He ____ be very tired now.
a. needn't b. must c. has to d. should
4. I ____ find my own way there. You ____ wait for me.
a. should / can't b. have to / must c. can / needn't d. might / mustn't
5. I was reading the book last night before I went to bed. I never took it out of this room. It ____ be lying around here somewhere. Where ____ it be?
a. might / needn't b. can / should c. shouldn't / may d. must / can
6. When you have a small child in the house, you ____ leave small objects lying around. Such objects ____ be swallowed, causing serious injury or even death.
a. should / must b. should not / might c. needn't / may d. mustn't / can't
7. You ____ take your umbrella along with you today. It ____ rain later on this afternoon.
a. ought to / mustn't b. needn't / will c. will / must d. should / might
8. I ____ be at the meeting by 10:00. I will probably ____ take a taxi if I want to be on time.
a. must/ have to b. may / must c. should / needn't d. mustn't / shouldn't
9. You ____ forget to pay the rent tomorrow. The landlord is very strict about paying on time.
a. needn't b. mustn't c. do not have to d. may not
10. I am not deaf. You ____ shout.

a. must b. mustn't c. need d. needn't

11. _____ I borrow your lighter for a minute? - Sure, no problem. Actually, you _____ keep it if you want to.

a. May / can b. Must / might c. Will / should d. Might / needn't

12. I do not mind at all. You _____ apologize.

a. shouldn't b. needn't c. mustn't d. oughtn't to

13. Ted's flight from Amsterdam took more than 11 hours. He _____ exhausted after such a long flight now.

a. must be b. must be being c. must have been d. should have been

14. The lamp _____ be broken. Maybe the light bulb just burned out.

a. should not b. might not c. must not d. will not

15. It is a top secret. You _____ tell anyone about it.

a. mustn't b. needn't c. mightn't d. won't

16. We have plenty of time for doing the work. We _____ be hurried.

a. needn't b. shouldn't c. mustn't d. mayn't

17. She spoke in a low voice, but I _____ what she was saying

a. can understand b. could understand
c. were able understand d. could have under stood

18. These two boys are identical. They _____ twins.

a. must have been b. should be c. must be d. should have been

19. Had we known your new address, we _____ to see you.

a. came b. will come c. would have come d. would come

20. You have been reading for four hours. This book ____ be very interesting.

A. can B. might C. must D. should

21. Don't phone Ann now. She ____ be having lunch.

A. might B. can C. must D. has to

22. This road is very narrow. It ____ to be widened.

A. might B. needs C. mustn't D. may

23. You ____ ring the bell; I have a key.

A. mustn't B. needn't C. couldn't D. shouldn't

24. The line is busy; someone ____ the telephone now.

A. must be using B. must have used C. must use D. must have been using

25. "Did Peter go downtown by car or by train?" "He ____ by train because his car was in the mechanics."

A. must go B. has to go C. had gone D. must have gone

30. "Have you seen Kate?" "No, but she ____ be at her desk."

A. may B. ought C. would D. can