3 Modal Verbs

14 **Read the text below and decide which word best fits each space.**

Become a Stargazer!



A couple of hundred years ago, anyone 1) .could..... sit outside, look up at the night sky and see thousands of stars. But try the same thing today and you would be lucky to see more than a couple – and those 2) ..... actually be aeroplanes or satellites rather than stars! Many of us live in cities where the city lights block our view of the stars in the sky. Of course, you 3) ..... buy a telescope to get a better view, but isn't it a pity that we 4) ..... just look up on a dark night and see the amazing sights of the galaxy? Every one of us 5) ..... enjoy that experience from time to time. Would you like to see the night sky as your grandparents did? There is a way, and you 6) ..... buy an expensive telescope to do it!

- Since you 7) ..... see more stars when the moon is not shining brightly, wait for a dark night and drive out of the city. Depending on where you live, you 8) ..... need to travel a long distance.
- Turn off your car lights; don't blink! You 9) ..... give your eyes some time to adjust to the dark.
- Look up! You will be absolutely amazed at what you see!

1	(A) could	B ought to	C should
2	A must	B need	C might
3	A should	B ought to	C can
4	A needn't	B can't	C shouldn't
5	A should	B may	C have to
6	A needn't	B didn't have to	C needn't have
7	A must	B can	C ought to
8	A can	B should	C may
9	A have to	B might	C shall

15 **Read the situation and write what you would say, using *could*, *should*, *might*, *ought to*, *don't have to*, *have to*, *must* or *may*, and the correct tense of the infinitive, as in the example.**

1 Mark lied to his teacher and, when she found out, she was very angry. What do you say to him?
.You.shouldn't.have.lied.to.your.teacher./.You.ought.to.have.told.your.teacher.the.truth.....

2 A student has just come into the class and left the door open. It's noisy outside. What do you say to him?
.....

3 Your father wants to know where your sister is. You think she is playing football in the garden. What do you say to your father?
.....

4 Your friend failed an exam at school. He hadn't studied at all. What do you say to him?
.....

5 Your friend always looks tired. You're sure this is because she doesn't get enough sleep. What do you say to her?
.....

6 Your friend wants to buy you a gift for your birthday. You think it's not necessary. What do you say to her?
.....

7 Your friend can't find her mobile phone. You think she left it in the car. What do you say to her?
.....

8 Steve was very rude to Kim and didn't apologise to her. What do you say to him?
.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

16 Choose the most appropriate response.

1 Would you mind posting this letter for me?
A Yes, you may. (B) Not at all.

2 We could order a pizza tonight.
A That's a good idea. B No, we might not.

3 Can I borrow your pen, please?
A Not at all. B Of course.

4 Shall I open the window?
A No, you won't. B No, it's okay, thanks.

5 Will you help me with the laundry, please?
A Yes, I may. B Certainly.

6 Could you pick me up at the train station, please?
A No, you couldn't. B Yes, of course.

7 Would you please reply to these emails?
A I'd be happy to. B Yes, I would.

8 Can I park here?
A No, you can't. B No, thank you.

17 Rephrase the following sentences in as many ways as possible.

1 **I advise you** to see a doctor.
You should/ought to see a doctor.

2 **It isn't necessary for him** to buy her a present.

3 **I'm sure** Frank isn't at football practice.

4 **It is possible that Lisa will** go to the party tonight.

5 **You aren't allowed** to make noise at night.

6 **We are obliged to** wear a uniform at work.

7 **Would you like me** to carry your luggage?

8 **How about** getting a part-time job?

9 **It's forbidden** to park here.

10 **Tom managed** to pass his driving test.

18 Underline the correct modal verb.

Sea World

If you love sea animals, then you really 1) **should/might** visit SeaWorld in San Diego, California. At SeaWorld, you 2) **can/must** swim with one of the most beautiful creatures on earth; the bottlenose dolphin. Imagine feeding a group of these playful animals lunch and then taking hold of their fins and swimming beside them! Lucky visitors 3) **ought to/may** even receive a dolphin kiss! After the dolphin pool, you 4) **may/should** be eager to see even more sea animals. If that's the case, you 5) **ought to/shall** visit the bat ray pool. There you 6) **can/must** handle and feed hundreds of hungry Californian bat rays! Animal lovers 7) **mustn't/needn't** miss the underwater Shark Tunnel. In it, you can see hundreds of shark species swimming silently above you – a truly amazing sight. So remember to go to SeaWorld if you are ever in California. It's one day out you will never forget!





LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 Modal Verbs

19 **Read the email and underline the correct item.**

Dear Claire,

I'm writing to ask if you 1) **could** / **might** give me some advice. I'm a 20-year-old student who 2) **shall** / **has to** survive on the money my parents send me. My family lives in a small village but when I succeeded in my exams, I 3) **ought to** / **had to** move to Leeds to attend university. My parents are over 60 and 4) **can** / **shall** no longer work. I feel like I 5) **may** / **ought to** be giving them money to help them instead of getting money from them. On top of that, my sister is leaving school next year and she 6) **will** / **must** want to go to university, too. I feel I 7) **might** / **ought to** do something to help her as well. I suppose I 8) **must** / **shall** try to get a job but I 9) **mustn't** / **can't** think of what I 10) **can** / **shall** do. It 11) **needs to** / **might** be a good idea to work nights so that I can study during the day. You see, I 12) **must** / **can** attend all my lectures or I 13) **should** / **will** fail my course. Of course I 14) **could** / **may** leave university but I don't want to. I 15) **need to** / **was able to** do something soon but what? Please advise me. What 16) **had better** / **should** I do?

Ann



Speaking Activity

(giving suggestions)

Look at the letter in Ex. 19 again. Look at Claire's notes to Ann and make comments and speculations using modals.

- don't feel guilty about your situation
- don't stop attending university
- get a job as a babysitter/waitress
- save money
- cook your own meals
- walk instead of using public transport
- apply for money from the Students' Support Fund

You shouldn't feel guilty about your situation.



Writing Activity

Use three of the ideas from the speaking activity to complete Claire's email to Ann. Try to use as many different modals as possible.

Dear Ann,

I'm sorry to hear about your problem but really there are so many things you can do to make your life better. You shouldn't feel guilty about your situation. .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS