

Modal Auxiliary Verbs

I. Choose the best modality of the following sentences.

- Look at Fred! He must be drunk.
a. Obligation b. Prohibition c. certainty
- We must study because there is an exam tomorrow.
a. Obligation b. Prohibition c. certainty
- May I use your pen for a minute?
a. Suggestion b. Permission c. Request
- Although it was foggy, we could see the village in the distance.
a. Ability b. Possibility c. necessity
- You mustn't smoke in this room. Look at the sign.
a. Prohibition b. Obligation c. certainty
- You look tired. You should go to bed.
a. Permission b. Suggestion c. Possibility
- You really have to work harder if you want to pass the examination.
a. Suggestion b. certainty c. necessity
- Can you speak any foreign languages?
a. Possibility b. ability c. permission
- Be careful of that dog. It might bite you.
a. Probability b. prohibition c. suggestion
- Would you please be quiet? I'm trying to concentrate.
a. Advice b. probability c. request

II. Fill in the with the most suitable auxiliary verbs

- The phone rang but I didn't hear it. I have been asleep. (certainty)
a. May b. must c. could d. would
- Jane walked past me without speaking. She have seen me. (certainty)
a. Can't b. may c. would d. must
- I'm not sure where Tim is. He be in his office. (possibility)
a. Can b. might c. could d. should
- You look so tired. You go to bed right now. (advice)
a. Must b. should c. may d. ought to
- Excuse me, you tell me how to get to the airport? (request)
a. Can't b. can c. could d. will
- She spoke in a very low voice, but I understand her. (ability)
a. Can b. could c. can't d. would
- you like a cup of coffee or tea? I can make you one. (offer)
a. Could b. may c. should d. would
- Excuse me sir, I go out for a minute, please? (permission)
a. May b. might c. could d. would
- I don't want anyone to know. You tell any one. (prohibition)
a. Must b. have to c. mustn't d. don't have to
- you mind if I used your laptop for an hour? (permission)
a. May b. would c. could d. will