

Exercise 1 – Highlight the correct modal from the two choices from an article in a magazine about regrets.

Regrets

As we get older and when we think about our past, we sometimes ponder things that we should/can have done. And we also may/shall regret those things we did badly and the mistakes we made. In reality, we be able to/can always learn from our mistakes and hope to never make them again. For example, if I failed a test because of a lack of study, the next test I will/must hope to pass because of hard work. Remember too that some regrets are not based in reality, and we must/may waste time thinking that they are. Would/should I have really not have been involved in a car crash if I had been driving more slowly? After all, the other driver ought to/will have been concentrating and not playing with their radio. We have to/would be honest with ourselves and live in the now. The only things we used to/can control are the things happening now, in this moment.

Exercise 2 – Identify the type of modals used in the following sentences.

1. I should / ought to see a doctor. I have a terrible headache.

A. Ability

2. Smoking can cause cancer.

B. Request

3. May I use your phone please?

C. Permission

4. You must stop when the traffic lights turn red.

D. Advice

5. There are no more tomatoes in the fridge. You need to buy today.

E. Possibility

F. Obligation

