

Language worksheet 5.1

Modal verbs

1 Underline the modal verb(s) in each of these sentences.

- a It is raining today but tomorrow might be sunny.
- b You must realise that you cannot waste any more time.
- c It is getting late and I ought to get home.
- d This may seem like a joke to you, but you won't find it funny tomorrow.

2 Circle the correct modal verb in each of these sentences.

- a He *can* / *would* / *need not* love to find the solution.
- b I *may* / *could* / *cannot* believe I will never see you again.
- c You *should* / *might* / *can* phone your grandmother this evening to say thank you.
- d Why *could* / *will* / *must* we leave for the airport so early?

3 Circle each modal verb and underline how it is being used.

- a If I am lucky, I will win a prize this year.
possibility / ability / permission / obligation
- b You are ill so you can stay at home today.
possibility / ability / permission / obligation
- c Can she play the violin at the concert?
possibility / ability / permission / obligation
- d They really should not go into that old house.
possibility / ability / permission / obligation

4 Write the correct modal verb forms in the spaces.

- a Because of the bad weather, their train _____ be late. _____
we go to the station anyway?
- b How _____ you do that to me? I _____ never forgive you!