

Modal auxiliaries

Modal auxiliaries go with another verb and add to the meaning of the verb.

- She **goes** to the store.
- She **can't go** to the store now.
- She **will go** to the store later.

Can: ability/requests

- **Can** you **ski**? (ability)
Yes, I **can**.
No, I **can't (cannot)**.
- Where **can I get** a cheap computer?
- You **can go** to the mall.
- **Can** you **drive** me to the mall? (request)

Will: future events/requests/expressions of willingness or refusal

- We **will go** to England someday./We'll **go** to England someday. (future)
- We **won't (will not) go** to New York next year.
- **Will** you **take** \$50 for the sofa? (requests)
- I'll **give** it to you for \$75. (expression of willingness)
- I **won't give** it to you for \$50. (refusal)

Part 1

Complete the sentences. Circle *can* or *will*.

1. I like your new mobile phone. **Can/Will** I hold it for a minute?
2. I'm interested in this sofa. **Can/Will** you take \$65 for it?
3. Yes, I'd like to go to the concert, but tickets **can/will** cost \$100.
4. Is there a place where we **can/will** buy flowers around here?
5. I **can't/won't** drive to the mall because I don't have a car.
6. Mary is a vegetarian, so she **can't/won't** eat any meat at the party.

Part 2

Use the modal meanings and the verbs in parentheses to complete the sentences.

1. Nick loves fashion. He will be a fashion designer someday. (future, *be*)
2. A: Nice phone! B: Yes, and I _____ great pictures with it, too. (ability, *take*)
3. No, I _____ you to the mall. Take the bus instead. (refusal, *not drive*)
4. I _____ if we have any more cameras in the back of the shop. (willingness, *see*)
5. You _____ this online for a lower price. (ability, *buy*)
6. Dani _____ her camera to the class party next week. (future, *bring*)