



Grammar 1

Modals: ability, permission, requests, offers & suggestions

3 Circle the correct words.

- 1 Shall I / **Am I able to** bring you some books the next time I visit?
- 2 You **could** / **will be able to** see the prisoner after lunch.
- 3 **Would** / **May** I visit my wife while she's in prison?
- 4 **Would** / **Can't** you like to tell us where you were yesterday evening?
- 5 The police were happy that they **were able to** / **were allowed to** find the criminal.
- 6 **Shall** / **Could** you call my lawyer? I think I'm in trouble.
- 7 My parents said I **won't be allowed to** / **can** see Jim anymore because he shoplifts.
- 8 The burglar hit you very hard! **May you** / **Are you able to** stand up now, sir?



4 Choose the correct answers.

- 1 Sharon ___ read and write before she started school.
a can b could c was allowed to
- 2 The young offender ___ miss a meeting with his probation officer to go to his sister's wedding.
a was allowed to b may not c could
- 3 ___ you phone me if you find out who stole my car, please?
a Shall b Will c Couldn't
- 4 He ___ get a job right now because he has to do thirty hours of community service each week.
a can't b may c shall
- 5 ___ you like me to take you to the police station?
a May b Can c Would
- 6 Once he'd found the clue, Officer Boyle ___ solve the murder case.
a was able to b could c may

3 Circle the correct words.

Int: So, you're a probation officer in the UK criminal system, aren't you?

Ann: Yes, that's right. I work with people who have either broken the law, but
¹ **didn't have to serve** / **needn't have served** a prison sentence, or people
who ² **had to** / **must** go to prison, but who are out now.

Int: It ³ **must** / **may** be quite a difficult job. Working with criminals ⁴ **mustn't** / **can't**
be easy! What kind of things ⁵ **do you have to** / **can you** do?

Ann: Well, I often ⁶ **need** / **must** to write reports, for example, when I think a
criminal ⁷ **has to** / **might** be dangerous, or if I think they ⁸ **could** / **need to**
break the law again. I also ⁹ **could** / **have to** make sure that the criminal
does what the judge has said they ¹⁰ **must** / **can** do. For example, sometimes
criminals ¹¹ **have to** / **needn't** do community service. They ¹² **must** / **might**
actually do the work they have been told to do.

Int: ¹³ **Did you need to** / **Mustn't you** go to university to get this job?

Ann: No, I ¹⁴ **needn't** / **can't** have gone to university, but I did. Then I ¹⁵ **may** / **had to**
train to become a probation services officer, or a PSO as they are called.

Int: That ¹⁶ **can** / **must** have taken quite a few years.

Ann: After university, the whole process took about fifteen months. But it was
worth it – I really enjoy my job.



Teacher Sheifa