

MODAL VERB	USE	MEANING	EXAMPLE
MAY	Formal Permission / Possibility	Something is possible (50-70%)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> It may rain today. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You may go now.
MIGHT	Weak Possibility	Something is possible (30-50%)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> We might be late. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> She might not come.
MUST	Obligation / Necessity	Sure something is 90 - 100% true, Necessary or Prohibition	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> She must be in the garden. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You must stop smoking. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You mustn't wait here.
CAN	Ability / Possibility / Permission	Someone is able to do something / It's possible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I can swim. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> You can see the mountains from here.



- CAN is used for strong ability or real possibilities.
- MAY is more polite/formal than CAN.
- MIGHT shows less certainty than MAY.

1. Choose the correct answer

It ___ rain later, so take an umbrella.

- a) can b) may c) must

She ___ play the guitar very well.

- a) can b) might c) should

We ___ go to the zoo tomorrow if it doesn't rain.

- a) may b) can't c) must

They ___ arrive late because of the traffic.

- a) might b) can c) mustn't

I ___ swim very well.

- a) may b) might c) can

Our teacher says we _____ study for the test if we want to do well.

- a) can b) may c) must

2. Reorganize the Sentence. Rewrite the words in the correct order.

- 1. rain / it / later / might _____
- 2. help / I / can / you _____
- 3. the / may / they / park / visit _____
- 4. might / tired / feel / you / after / the / walk _____
- 5. swim / can / dogs _____

3. Circle the correct verb.

- A Don't look now but isn't that Jane Marshall over there?
- B Where?
- A At that table by the window.
- B No, it 'must / can't be. She went to live in Chicago.
- A But I'm sure it's Jane.
- B Mmm, I suppose it 'can't / might be her. But if it is, she looks much thinner than she used to.
- A Well it 'must / can't be five years since we last saw her. Someone can change a lot in five years!
- B You're right, it is Jane. But who do you think the man is? He 'can't / might not be her husband, can he?
- A No, he 'can't / might not be. They broke up years ago and haven't spoken to each other since.
- B It 'can / may be her new boyfriend – or her son!
- A Shall we go over and find out?



4. Answer in your own words.

- 1. What can you do that your friends can't?

- 2. Describe something you might do next weekend.

- 3. When may you ask for help at school?

- 4. What places might you visit in your city?
