9 Possibilities

Modals for possibility
Have to

May, might and could

May, might and **could** are modal verbs. We use them to talk about things that are possible now or in the future.

*He **might** win!* *He **could** become a famous sportsman.*

There is no important difference between the use of these three modals.

*It **may** rain. = It **might** rain. = It **could** rain.*

We don't need to add an 's' to the third person form of modal verbs. We use them like this:

Affirmative	Negative
modal verb + base form	modal verb + **not** + base form
*It **might rain**.*	*It **might not rain**.*

We can also use **may**, **might** and **could** with the first conditional to talk about things that are possible in the future. If the first action happens, the second action is possible.

*If you do lots of running, you **could** win the race.*

Use **will** and **won't** about to talk about things that will be true in the future. If the first action happens, the second action will happen.

*If you do lots of running, you **will** be very healthy.*

1 Read the text and circle the modal verbs.

Hi! My name's Sally Megson. I'm 10 and I go to school, and my hobbies are drawing and painting. I think I'm quite good at art, and next year I may study art at a special art school. The school is a long way from my home so I might have to take the bus to get there. I could be better at art if I had more time to practise, and my art teacher says I may win an award for my drawings when I'm older. I might not win it this year, but things could be different next year!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2 Match situations 1–8 with modal verb sentences a–h.

1 __e__ I feel ill.
2 _____ It's cold.
3 _____ Olly wants to be more healthy.
4 _____ They're doing a lot of homework.
5 _____ The team's lost every game this year.
6 _____ These trainers are too small for me.

a There may be a test next week.
b I could get some new ones.
c They might get some new players.
d It may be hotter tomorrow.
e I might go to the doctor.
f He might start doing more sport.

3 Write the words in the correct order.

1 I / play / the school team / may / for
I may play for the school team.
2 next Saturday / not / might / go swimming / we
We _____
3 the goalkeeper / could / catch / the football
The goalkeeper _____
4 might / learn / to swim / I / next year
I _____
5 he / may / a good player / not / be
He _____
6 could / choose / the captain / a new team
The captain _____
7 a new captain / next year / not / the team / might / have
The team _____
8 my dad / start / may / next year / running
My dad _____

4 Rewrite the sentences. Use the modal verbs in brackets.

1 We'll go to France next year. (might)
We might go to France next year.
2 I'll run more in summer. (could)
_____
3 I won't get 100% in the maths test. (may not)
_____
4 I'll read two books in a day this year. (might)
_____
5 Dad won't play football every day. (might not)
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 Look at the pictures. Are the sentences true or false? Write T or F.

If we go to Italy, ...

1 ... we could see some wild animals. F
2 ... we might take our bicycles. _____
3 ... we may eat ice cream. _____
4 ... we could stay in a tent. _____
5 ... we might learn Italian. _____
6 ... it might rain. _____
7 ... we might eat a lot of cheese. _____
8 ... we may travel by plane. _____

6 Look at the picture of France in exercise 5. Write sentences with the words in the box and may, might, may not or might not.

go to the mountains be sunny go walking eat lots of pasta
learn French fly stay in a hotel see some wild animals

If we go to France, ...

1 we might go to the mountains.
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____
7 _____
8 _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

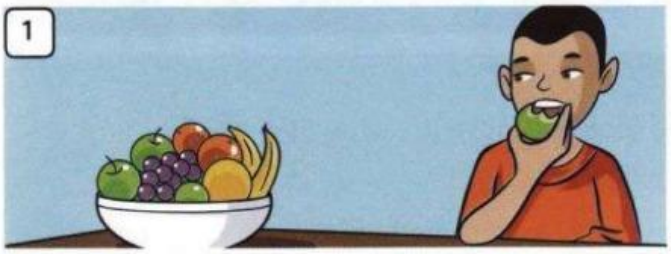
7 Circle the correct answers.

1 If it's sunny tomorrow, we **'ll** / **may not** play outside.
2 Edward and Jamie **could** / **won't** go to the cinema if their mum took them.
3 We **may** / **'ll** go to the park. We'll decide tomorrow.
4 If the school is closed today, we **might** / **may not** have to go to school tomorrow.
5 Poppy's clever. She**'ll** / **might not** do well in the test.
6 Mum and Dad **won't** / **might** be pleased if I don't tidy my room.
7 Jason **might** / **couldn't** do well in the test.
8 They **might not** / **will** help us if we don't help them.

8 Look at the pictures. Write sentences about yourself. Use might, might not, will or won't.

eat more fruit | go jogging | swim more | watch less TV | get a new bike | eat less fast food

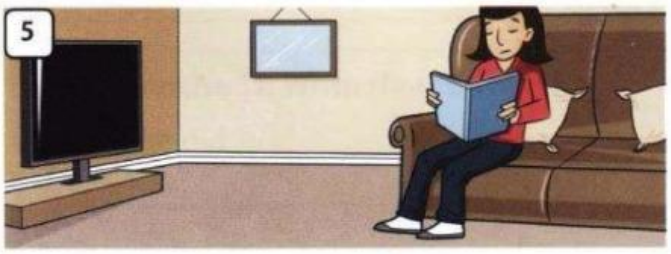
Next year ...

1


2

3

4

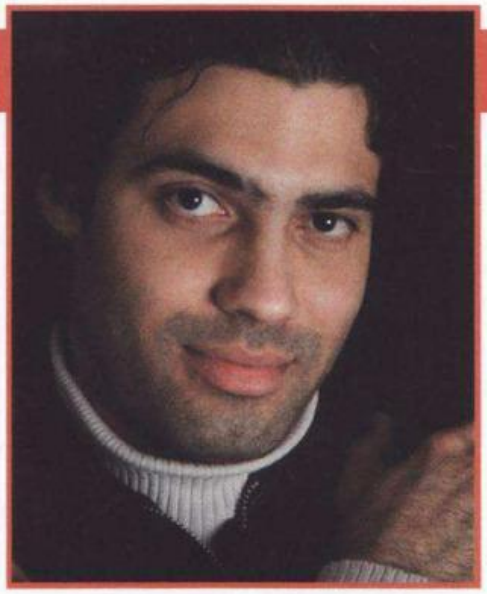
5


6

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Footballers have to work hard!

Ahmed plays football in England. Duncan Brown asked him some questions.



D: Ahmed, you've been playing football in England for five years. **Did** you **have to work hard** to get there?

A: **Yes, I did!** It was very hard. I **had to practise** every day.

D: **Do** you still **have to practise** every day?

A: I **don't have to play** every day, but I **have to stay** healthy.

D: Yes, footballers **have to be** very strong. **Do** you **have to eat** special food?

A: I **didn't have to eat** special food when I was younger, but I do now. We **have to eat** lots of good, healthy food because we **have to be** strong and fast.

Have to

We use **have to** + base form to talk about something someone must do.

*We **have to eat** healthy food.* *I **had to practise** every day.*

We use subject + **did/do** + **not** + **have to** + base form to talk about something that isn't or wasn't necessary.

*I **don't have to play** every day.* *I **didn't have to eat** special food when I was younger.*

We make questions from **do/did** + subject + **have to** + base form. Short answers are in the same tense as the question.

Do** you **have to eat** special food?* ***Yes, we do.** / **No, we don't.
Did** you **have to work** hard to get there?* ***Yes, I did.** / **No, I didn't.

9 Write the words in the correct order to make sentences.

1 you / help your mum / with the housework / have to
You have to help your mum with the housework.

2 Molly and Bella / have to / study hard
_____

3 George / last week / had to / go to the doctor
_____

4 Olly / do / a lot of homework / had to
_____

5 the boys / get up / had to / early
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS

10 **Complete the negative sentences. Use have to.**

Age 7–15

Ahmed played for his school football team. He didn't travel much.

Age 16–19

Ahmed lived with his family and he travelled 50 km every day to play football for a local team. He played in a match every weekend.

Age 20

Ahmed moved to England to play football.

Now

Ahmed trains four days a week and plays twice a week. He eats healthy food (no pizza or burgers) and goes to bed early before every match. He lives near the stadium.

1 Ahmed didn't have to travel (travel) much when he was 15.
2 _____ (eat) special food when he was 16.
3 _____ (live) in England when he was 18.
4 _____ (practise) every day now.
5 _____ (play) football three times a week now.
6 _____ (travel) 50 km every day to practise now.

11 **Look at exercise 10. Write questions with have to.**

1 Did Ahmed have to travel (travel) 50 km every day to train when he was 16?
2 _____ (eat) special food when he was 19?
3 _____ (play) football every day when he was 19?
4 _____ (practise) every day of the week now?
5 _____ (eat) burgers now?
6 _____ (go to bed) early before matches now?

12 **Look at exercise 11. Write short answers.**

1 Yes, he did.
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS