ÁREA ACADÉMICA: LICENCIATURA EN ADMINISTRACION

TEMA:/// VERBOS MODALES

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PERIODO: AGOSTO-DICIEMBRE 2017



MODAL VERBS

Abstract

The modal verbs include *can, must, may, might, will, would, should.* They are used with other verbs to express ability, obligation, possibility, and so on.

Modal verbs are unlike other verbs. They do not change their form (spelling) and they have no infinitive or participle (past/present). The modals *must* and *can* need substitute verbs to express obligation or ability in the different tenses

Finally, Modals are <u>auxiliary verbs</u> which do not need an a dditional auxiliary in negatives or questions.

KEY WORDS:

Modal Verbs, Auxiliaries,

MODAL VERBS

PERMISSION, OBLIGATION, NECESSITY

can, must, should, ought to, had better

The most common modal verbs for talking about permission and obligation are can/could, must, and should/ought to.

I **couldn't** take any photos in the museum, so I bought some postcards. Passengers on the bus **mustn't** distract the driver.

We **should/ought to** drive home on the motorway – it's much quicker.

We can use **should have** or **ought to have + past participle** to talk about past events which did not happen and which we regret.

We **should have/ought to have** driven home on the motorway – it would have been quicker.

Had better is stronger and more urgent than should/ought to and is often used to give strong advice or a warning. It normally refers to the immediate future.

You'd better post the parcels today or they won't get there in time.

The negative is had better not NOT hadn't better.

have to/have got to

We also use have to to express obligations. It can be used in any tense.

All passengers will have to fill in a form before landing.

You don't have to tip the waitress unless you think the service was especially good.

We can also use **have got to** to express obligation, but it is normally used for specific occasions rather than repeated or general obligations.

I've got to buy a birthday present for my brother.

need

We use **need/don't need + to + infinitive** to say that something is necessary/ unnecessary. You can use these forms for habitual, general, and specific necessity.

You usually **need to** check in at least two hours before a flight leaves. I **don't need to** take a raincoat. It's going to be hot today.

When we want to say that something is unnecessary on a specific occasion, we can also use *needn't* + infinitive without to.

You needn't lock the car. Nobody will steal it in this village.

We use **don't need to** (**NOT** needn't) for habitual or general necessity, e.g. I don't need to wear glasses. My eyesight is still good. **NOT** I needn't wear glasses.

need

When something was not necessary, but you did it, we can use either needn't have + past participle or didn't need to + infinitive.

We needn't have booked/didn't need to book a table. The restaurant is empty!

When something was not necessary so you did not do it, we must use didn't need to.

NOT We had plenty of petrol so we needn't have stopped, which saved time.

We had plenty of petrol so we didn't need to stop, which saved time.

MORE ABOUT MODAL VERS

- Using the modal verbs we may, for example, ask for permission to do something, grant permission to someone, give or receive advice, make or respond to requests and offers, give instructions or orders, express duty or obligation etc.
- Modal verbs can be used to express different levels of politeness.
- •We can also use them to express different degrees of probability.

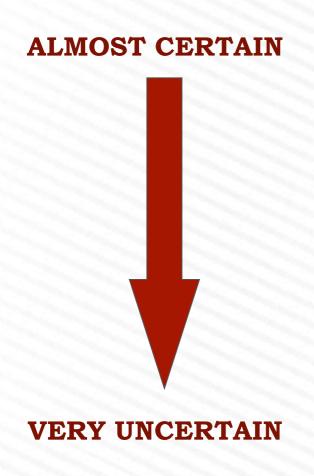
Primary functions of modal verbs

- Ability
- Permission
- Prohibition
- Prediction
- Duty (escapable obligation)
- Obligation (inescapable)
- Request; Offer
- Possibility
- Absence of obligation

- CAN
- MAY (might)/ CAN (could)
- MUSTN'T / CANNOT
- WILL / SHALL / MAY
- SHOULD
- MUST
- CAN / WILL
- CAN / CANNOT
- NEEDN'T

SECONDARY FUNCTIONS OF MODAL VERBS

IN THEIR SECONDARY FUNCTION, THE MODAL VERBS (EXCEPT SHALL) CAN BE USED TO EXPRESS THE DEGREE OF CERTAINTY/UNCERTAINTY OR PROBABILITY.



- MUST
- WILL
- WOULD
- OUGHT TO
- SHOULD
- CAN
- COULD
- MAY
- MIGHT

SOME IMPORTANT GRAMMAR ASPECTS

The negative is formed by the addition of <u>not</u> after the modal. In informal spoken English <u>not</u> is often reduced to <u>n't</u>. Modals in affirmative do not have contracted forms (except for <u>will</u> and <u>would</u>: I'll, I'd).

In questions, the modal verbs behave like the auxiliar verbs: do, have or be.

Only one modal verb can be used in a single verb phrase. Tenses: all modals can refer to the immediate present or the future, therefore 'present' is not always a reliable label (I can call him today / I can call him tomorrow).

There is no progressive form for modals. But we can put the verb that follows the modal into the progressive form.

Verbs that share some characteristics with the modals: be able/ have to / ought to / need

CHECK OUT THESE EXAMPLES AND ANALYSE THEM.

- ✓ I can lift 25 kg. She can speak French.
- ✓ I couldn't finish the job.
- ✓ You can go now.
- ✓ It can be quite cold in winter.
- ✓ He can't be at home. He could have left last night.
- ✓ May I borrow your umbrella, please?
- ✓ You must do it. I had to do it. I'll have to do it.
- ✓ We mustn't forget our passports.
- ✓ You must have seen him.
- ✓ It must be Anna calling.
- ✓ You needn't wait for me.
- ✓ The exam can't have been difficult if he passed without studying.
- ✓ She should be at home by now.
- ✓ Shall I open the window?

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Recuperado de http://english-learners.com/2010/02/obligation-and-necessity-modals.html