

## MODAL VERBS

Meaning	Modal Verb	Example
1. Possibility (impossibility) of the action due to circumstances.	<b>can (could)</b> <b>be able to</b> <b>may</b>	I can come any time. Will you be able to help them? I may do it just as well!
2. Doubt, distrust, discredit.	<b>can (could)</b>	She can't (couldn't) be still sleeping. He can't (couldn't) have done it!
3. Polite request.	<b>could</b> <b>will</b>	Could you please call later? Will you please call later?
4. Prohibition.	<b>cannot</b> <b>must not</b> <b>may not (be +not + allowed to)</b>	You can't smoke here. You must not skip classes. You may not (are not allowed to) go there.
5. Permission.	<b>may</b> <b>be allowed to</b>	You may bring your parents with you.
6. Reproach.	<b>might + perfect infinitive</b>	You might have asked for permission.
7. Uncertain supposition.	<b>may</b> <b>perhaps</b> <b>maybe</b>	She may be still sleeping. Perhaps she is still sleeping. Maybe she is still sleeping.
8. Certain supposition.	<b>must</b> <b>probably</b> <b>obviously</b> <b>evidently</b> <b>be (un)likely</b>	They must have forgotten about it. Probably he didn't notice us. He is unlikely to come today.
9. Certainty.	<b>will</b> <b>be sure</b> <b>be certain</b>	He will pass the exam. He is sure to pass the exam. He is certain to pass the exam.
10. Duty, necessity, obligation.	<b>must</b> <b>be obliged</b> <b>need to</b>	We must (are obliged to/need to) help them by all means
11. Absence of necessity.	<b>needn't</b> <b>not have to</b>	You needn't come. You didn't have to come.
12. Necessity due to circumstances.	<b>have to</b>	You will have to wait. I'm glad you didn't have to wait.
13. Arrangement according to plan, schedule.	<b>be to</b>	The train is to arrive at platform 5. She is to take part in a conference.
14. What is destined.	<b>be to</b>	They were to live a long life.
15. Recommendation, advice.	<b>should</b> <b>ought to</b>	You shouldn't have told them about it. You ought to have called before coming.
16. What should be expected.	<b>should</b>	Inflation should result in price rise.
17. Threat.	<b>shall</b>	They shall remember me!
18. Declaration of will, intent.	<b>will</b> <b>would</b>	The door won't open! He wouldn't admit his fault!