

English Grammar Summary

Modal Auxiliary Verbs

- They agree with everything; they're not infinitives(to-form)

Some Examples :

May – Requests (formal)

- Example: May I borrow your book for class?

Can – Requests (informal)

- Example: Can you help me with my homework?

Could – Requests (polite)

- Example: Could you pass me the salt, please?

Would – Requests (polite)

- Example: Would you like some tea with your meal?

May – Permission (formal)

- Example: May I leave the room now?

Can – Permission (informal)

- Example: Can I go to the park today?

Must – Obligation (full)

- Example: You must complete the assignment by tomorrow.

Should – Obligation (partial)

- Example: You should call your mother tonight.

Ought to – Less common obligation (partial)

- Example: You ought to tell the truth always.

Must – Logical conclusions

- Example: He must be home; the lights are on.

Should – Logical conclusions

- Example: She should be at school by now.

Can – Possibility (general)

- Example: It can be very cold in December.

Could – Possibility

- Example: This could be the best day ever!

Might – Possibility

- Example: He might come if he finishes early.

May – Possibility

- Example: It may rain later this afternoon.

Will – Future



- Example: I will ace this English exam.

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Modifier Placement Verbs

- What's before the comma modifies the first-subjects that's after the comma.

Example : (From SE3)

	
<p><u>Smelling like old dirty socks</u>, Andy threw the wheel of cheese into the dumpster at the end of the street.</p> <p>- Currently the sentence means that Andy is smelling like old dirty socks, what we ultimately want is the cheese that smells like old dirty socks.</p>	<p>The wheel of cheese, smelling like old dirty socks, was thrown by Andy into the dumpster at the end of the street.</p>

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Idioms and Phrasal Verbs

Idiom :

- is a phrase with the meaning that is often difficult to understand by looking at the individual words.

Common ones : #coming in exam

1. **Cold feet** - to be too fearful to undertake or complete an action
 - Example: He got cold feet just before the wedding and called it off.
 2. **Walk on eggshells** - to be overly careful in dealing with a person or situation because they get angry or offended very easily
 - Example: Ever since the argument, I've had to walk on eggshells around her.
 3. **Under the weather** - unwell
 - Example: I'm feeling a bit under the weather, so I'm staying home today.
 4. **Hit the sack** - go to bed
 - Example: I'm exhausted—I think I'll hit the sack early tonight.
 5. **Set the record straight** - to write or say something in order to make the true facts known
 - Example: She wrote a letter to set the record straight about what really happened.
 6. **Apple of my eye** - someone who is very important to you and you are extremely fond (strong like) of them
 - Example: His granddaughter is the apple of his eye.
 7. **Bite the bullet** - to do something unpleasant or painful because it is necessary even though you would like to avoid it
 - Example: I didn't want to go to the dentist, but I had to bite the bullet.
 8. **Raining cats and dogs** - raining heavily
 - Example: We had to cancel the picnic because it was raining cats and dogs.
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Phrasal verbs :

- an idiomatic phrase consisting of a verb and another element, typically either an adverb, as in break down, or a preposition.
 - Examples : see to, or a combination of both, such as look down on.

Format :

Verb + preposition

More Examples :

- Look after - take care of
 - Example : She looks after her younger brother.
- Give up - stop trying or quit
 - Example : Don't give up on your dreams.

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Types of Pronouns

- **Pronouns** are words that replace nouns to avoid repetition, referring to people, places, things, or ideas.
 - Examples: He saw *her*. | It was fun

Personal Pronouns : are used for a specific person or object.

- Subjective case : Who or what the sentence is about. (*He* went to the store)
- Objective case : What or who is receiving the action. (The teacher helped *me*)
- Possessive case : Who the object belongs to in the sentence. (This is *my* table)

Demonstrative Pronouns : are used to show one or more nouns that might be near in distance and time.

- Those These There This
- **Example** : That is your house.

Interrogative Pronouns : (?) *beginning of the sentence

- These are used to ask questions
- Who What Where Why Which
- **Example** : Why are you here?

Relative Pronouns : *middle of the sentence

- are used to connect clauses together
- Who Which Whom Whose That
- **Example** : The boy that I told you about.

Indefinite Nouns : are used when referring to things that are unspecified.

- Somebody Anyone Many Nothing Nowhere
- **Example** : Many can do it. | Somebody called for you. | Nothing is impossible.