Modals in Farsi/Persian

Wataru Uegaki, James Engels, Ella Hannon, Anne Mucha, & Fred Whibley

(created for the UKRI FLF project "Logic in Semantic Universals" based on Vander Klok 2021 "Revised modal questionnaire for cross-linguistic use")

Language name:	Farsi/Persian
ISO 639-3:	pes
Glottolog:	west2369
Consultant demographics:	A female speaker of the Tehrani Farsi (commonly considered to be the standard Farsi). She is also familiar with Isfahani Farsi.
Elicitation dates:	26 Sep 2022, 29 Sep 2022, 30 Sep 2022

BODY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

A. EPISTEMIC

A1 Epistemic Necessity

(1) Ben goes swimming every day. Ben is not obliged or required to go swimming; it is just a habit of his. It is now time for Ben to be swimming… so Ben MUST be swimming (right now).

Ben **bayad** *rafte* *bash-ad* *shena*
Ben MOD go.pp aux.subj-3sg swimming
'Ben must be swimming'
(subjunctive after the modal - imperfective)

(2) You know that John goes to school at 9am every day. You look at the clock and see it is 9am, therefore John MUST be at school.

John **bayad** *madrese* *bash-ad*
John MOD school be.subj-3sg
'John must be at school'

(3) The math teacher says: The ball is in A or in B or in C. It is not in A. It is not in B. So, it MUST be in C. Adapted from von Fintel & Gillies 2007.

Bayad *tu* *C* *bash-ad*
MOD in C be.subj-3sg
'(it) must be in C'

(4) Tim is calling for his dog. The dog is not coming. Tim looks for the dog in the kitchen, bedroom, living room, (in every room in the house) but the dog is not in any of those rooms. Therefore, Tim thinks/concludes that the dog MUST not be in the house.

#sag **bayad** *xune* *na-bash-ad*
  dog MOD house not-be.subj-3sg

Sag **na** **- bayad** *xune* *bash-ad*
Dog NEG - MOD house be.subj-3sg
"It must be the case that the dog is not in the house"

Comment: *correspondent says second, epistemic, is better - where negation is on the modal)*

A2 Epistemic Weak Necessity

Bayad is also used in weak necessity contexts.
If one needs to contrast between *certainty vs. weak necessity*, one adds a modifier like "**definitely**" to *bayad*. Or, one can also weaken *bayad* with "probably"

(5) You know that Ann goes hiking from 7am until 8am every day. Most of the time Ann goes to the lake, but sometimes she goes to the mountains. It is now 7:30am. You say to your friend: Ann SHOULD be at the lake right now.

(6) (Imagine that) you used to live in Goa. You are not living in Goa anymore. You notice how different the weather is in the UK, where you live right now. You know that it often rains in Goa, especially in the afternoon, but not necessarily every day. Now it's the afternoon, so you think it SHOULD be raining now in Goa.

(7) When the light is on at Mary's house, it usually means that she is home. You want to visit Mary. You walk past Mary's house and notice that the light is on. However, there is no car in the driveway. You think to yourself: Mary SHOULD be at home, but it's not certain.

A3 Epistemic Possibility

(8) The teacher is not consistent. The students never know if he's going to come or not to teach class. Today, it's time to start class and the students are waiting again. He MIGHT / #must be coming to school today.

Shayad *be* *madrese* *be-y-ad*

MOD   to   school   imperf.subj-come-3sg
'(He) maybe coming to school"

(9) Grace is looking for her necklace. She looks in her wardrobe and on top of the wardrobe. It's not there. She looks on top of the TV. It's not there. She looks in her backpack. It's not there. Wait! She didn't check her sister's wardrobe yet. Grace's necklace MIGHT / #must be lost.

Shayad *gardanband- e   Grace gom   shode   bash-ad*
MOD   necklace   - ez Grace lost   become.pp   aux.subj-3sg
'Grace's necklace may be lost'

Ez = ezāfe.

Momken also possible for both - preferable

emkan, too - less preferable.

(10) Charles is looking for his pet cat, but cannot find it. He knows that his cat is very elusive/mysterious. Charles tells his sister:
The cat MAY be inside. The cat MAY also be outside.
(The task is not only to translate these two sentences individually, but to keep in mind the sequencing i.e., these sentences are not to be used in isolation).

Momken *ast   (ke)   gorbe   daxel   bash-ad…*
Possible   be.pres.3sg   that   cat   inside   be.subj- 3sg…
'(it's) possible that the cat is inside…'

*… **Momken** ham   ast   (ke)   biroon bash-ad*
… Possible also   be.pres.3sg   that   outside be.subj- 3sg
… '(it's) possible that the cat is outside'

*Gorbe   **shayad**   daxel   bash-ad,   **shayad**   ham   biroon bash-ad*
Cat   MOD   inside   be.subj-3sg, maybe   too   outside be.subj-3sg
'(The) cat maybe inside, or inside'

(11) Daniel lives in London and his friend has recently moved to New York. Daniel's parents told him that he is not allowed to go and see his friend in New York because it is too far away. You heard that Daniel is leaving London next week but you don't know where he will go. Daniel usually does things that he is not permitted to do. You think Daniel {MAY / MIGHT / #is allowed to} go to New York.

*Daniel {**momken   ast**   / **shayad** }   be   NYC   be   - rav - ad*
Daniel {possible   be.pres.3sg / maybe }   to   NYC   imperf.subj - go - 3sg

'(It's) possible Daniel was going to NYC' / 'Daniel was maybe going to NYC'

Shayad / #**momken**   *ast*   *Daniel*   *raft*   *NYC*
Maybe / #possible   be.pres.3sg Daniel   go.perfective.subj-3sg   NYC
'Maybe Daniel went to NYC'

A4 Epistemic Non-necessity

(7') When the light is on at Mary's house, it usually means that she is home. You want to visit Mary. You walk past Mary's house and notice that the light is on. However, there is no car in the driveway. You think to yourself: Mary should be at home, but it is NOT NECESSARILY THE CASE THAT she is / she MAY NOT be / it is NOT CERTAIN that she is.

Shayad *xune* ***na***   *- bash-ad*
MOD   home   neg   - be.subj-3sg
'(she) is maybe not at home'

Comment: Negation on embedded verb

?mi   *-tavan - ad*   *xune bash-ad*
Imperf- MOD   -3sg home be.subj-3sg

Momken   **ast**   *(ke)*   *xune*   *na - bash-ad*
Possible   be.pres.3sg (that)   home   neg - be.subj-3sg
'It is possible that she is not home'

#**Momken**   *n*   *- ist*   *(ke)*   *xune*   *bash-ad*
 Possible   neg - be.pres.3sg   (that) home   be.subj- 3sg

A5 Epistemic impossibility

(1') Ben goes swimming every day. Ben is not obliged or required to go swimming; it is just a habit of his. It is now time for Ben to be swimming… so Ben CAN'T be at home.

Momken   **n-ist**   *(ke)*   *xune*   *bash-ad*
Possible   neg-be.pres.3sg that   home   be.subj-3sg
'It is not possible that he is home'

Emkan   **na** *- dar - ad* *(ke)*   *xune*   *bash-ad*
Possibility   neg- have - 3sg that   home   be.subj-3sg

'It is not possible that he is home '

#**Shayad**   *xune*   **na** - *bash-ad*
  Maybe   home   neg -   be.subj-3sg

#**Momken**   *ast*   *(ke)*   *xune*   **na** - *bash-ad*
  Possible   be.pres.3sg   that   home   neg - be.subj-3sg

(3') The math teacher says: The ball is in A or in B or in C. We opened box A, and the ball is there. There is only one ball. So, it MUST NOT / CAN'T be in C.

- **Momken** **n** - **ist** …
  Possible   neg - be.pres.3sg …

- **Emkan**   **na** - *dar* - *ad* ...
  Possible   neg - have - 3sg …

- **Ne**   *mi*   - **tavan** - *ad*   *tu C bashad*
  Neg   imperf - MOD - 3sg   in C be.subj.3sg

B. DEONTIC

B1 Deontic Necessity

(12) In Indonesia, the law states that when you ride a motor bike… You MUST wear a helmet.

Bayad   *kolah* -*e*   *imeni* *be*   - *push* - *id*
MOD   hat   -ez   safety impf.subj - wear - 2pl
'(you) must wear a helmet'

Lazem   *ast*   *(ke) kolah-e imeni be*   - *push* - *id*
Necessary   be-pres-3sg that hat-ez   safety impf.subj- wear - 2pl
'It's necessary that you must wear a helmet'

(13) You are going to visit your friend in the hospital. When you enter into the hospital, you stop at the information desk to inquire what room your friend is in. But the woman at the information desk tells you that you can't visit your friend now because it's already 8pm. She says, "I'm sorry, the hospital regulations say that… Visitors MUST leave by 6pm."

Bazdidkonandegan   **bayad** *bimarestan ra   ta sa'at* - *e 6 tark*   *be*   - *kon* - *and*
Visitors   MOD   hospital   acc by clock - ez 6 leave impf.subj - do - 3pl
'Visitors must leave the hospital by 6 o'clock'

__Lazem__   ast   (ke) Bazdidkonandegan bimarestan ra   ta sa'at-e   6 tark be   - kon -and
Necessary be-pres-3sg (that) visitors   hospital   acc by clock-ez 6 leave impf.subj- do - 3pl
'(It's) necessary for visitors to leave the hospital by 6 o'clock'

Majboor hast-and …
"Forced…"

B2 Deontic Weak Necessity

(16) Your friend is having a birthday party. She tells you that she would like it if everyone invited wore formal clothes, but that it is not necessary to wear formal clothes to attend. You think to yourself… I OUGHT TO wear formal clothes to the party.

(17) Your friend tells you that the rules of the restaurant state that employees must wash their hands after going to the bathroom. You reply to your friend:… Non-employees OUGHT TO wash their hands too!

Moshtarian   __bayad__ dast   - an   - eshan   ra   be   - shur - and …
Customers   MOD   hand   - PL - POSS.3pl acc   impf.sub - wash - 3pl …

amma   majbur   n   - ist   - and
but   forced   neg - be.pres.3sg - 3pl
(*no particular modal form, complex verbal predicate instead*)

Comment: *Lazem* would be infelicitous here - too strong for WN

(18) In England, it is recommended that face coverings be worn in stores, but it is not a legal requirement. You plan on going shopping, and you think to yourself… I OUGHT TO wear a face covering.

__Behtar__ ast   (ke)   mask   be-zan-am
Better   be.pres.3sg   that   mask   impf.sub - hit - 1sg

__Bayad__ mask   be-zan-am
MOD   mask   impf.sub - hit - 1sg

B3 Deontic Possibility

(19) The ferris wheel ride is only for children under 12 years of age. Martin is 10 years of age. It is not obligatory for Martin to go on the ride if he doesn't want to. Martin MAY / #must ride the ferris wheel.

Martin mi   - __tavan__   - ad (ke)   savar - e charkh -o- falak   be   - shav   - ad

Matin imperf - MOD.pres - 3sg (that) rider - ez ferris   wheel   imperf.subj - become - 3sg

Mi	*- shav*	- ad	ke	Martin	savar - e	charkh-o-falak	be	- shav	- ad
Imperf -	*become.*pres -	3sg	that	Martin	rider - ez	ferris - wheel	imperf.subj -	become -	3sg

(20) According to the rules of the hospital, only family members are allowed to enter the patient's room during visiting hours. You came to visit your sister, but it was after visiting hours. But the really nice nurse says… You MAY / #must enter.

Mi	*- tavan*	*- i*	*be*	*- ya*	*- i*	*dakhel*
Imperf -	MOD -	pres-2sg	imperf.subj -	come -	2sg	inside

(21) You are making plans for tomorrow night to meet up with your friend. Your friend says:
You can stay overnight and you can go home.
You can stay overnight. You can also go home.

Mi-tavan-i

(22) Alice fell down the stairs and broke her arm a while ago. She hasn't been lifting her baby while her arm was hurt because the baby is heavy. Finally, she has recovered, and she went to the doctor for a final check-up. The doctor gave her permission to lift her baby. But when she got home after her visit to the doctor, Alice found that she is still too weak to lift her baby… Alice CAN lift her baby.

(23) Beth's teacher told her class that it was okay to go swimming, but Beth doesn't want to because she cannot swim! Beth CAN go swimming.
i.e. Beth COULD go swimming, Beth is ALLOWED/PERMITTED to go swimming, but she can't swim.

'*Mishavad ke Beth beravad shena, amma xodesh nemi tavand*'

Mi	*- shav*	- ad	ke	Beth	be	- rav - ad	shen*a*	*amma*	*xod - esh*	ne	- mi	- tavan	- ad
Impf -	become.pres -	3sg	C	Beth	imp.subj -	go - 3sg	swim	but	her - self	neg -	imp -	can	- 3sg

Beth	*ejaze*	*dar*	*- ad*	*ke*	*be*	*- rav*	*- ad*	*shena*	*amma ne*	*- mi*	*- tavan*	*- ad*
Beth	permission	have -	3sg	C	imperf.sub -	go -	3sg	swim but	neg -	imperf -	MOD	- 3sg

B4 Deontic non-necessity

(16') Your friend is having a birthday party. She tells you that she would like it if everyone invited wore formal clothes, but that it is not necessary to wear formal clothes to attend. You think to yourself… I ought to wear formal clothes to the party, but I DON'T HAVE TO / NEEDN'T wear formal clothes.

Lazem nist… (Not necessary (3sg))

Majboor nist-am… (Not forced (1sg))

Comment: negation of Bayad not preferable - periphrastic constructions preferred for non-necessity

negation of Bayad is only okay if come with adverb "definitely":

Hatman na-bayad

I think the surface position of "Hatman" doesnt change its scope. I get a deontic non-necessity reading with "nabayad hatman" as well.

I can force a deonric impossibility reading for "hatman na-bayad" with a certain intonation but "nabayad hatman" can only have a deontic non-necessity reading.

(18') In England, it is recommended that face coverings be worn in stores, but it is not a legal requirement. You plan on going shopping, and you think to yourself… I OUGHT TO wear a face covering, but I DON'T HAVE TO / NEEDN'T.

Not tested.

B5 Deontic impossibility

(12') In Indonesia, the law states that when you ride a motor bike… You MUST NOT / MAY NOT ride a motor bike without a helmet.

Na - bayad	*bedoon-e*	*kolah-e*	*imeni*	*savar-e motor*	*be-shav-ad*
Neg- MOD	without-ez	hat-ez	safety	rider-ez motor	impf.subj-become-3sg

Comment: negating the modal "na-bayad" - bayad embedding a negation

(13') You are going to visit your friend in the hospital. When you enter into the hospital, you stop at the information desk to inquire what room your friend is in. But the woman at the information desk tells you that you can't visit your friend now because it's already 8pm. She says, "I'm sorry, the hospital regulations say that… Visitors MUST NOT / MAY NOT stay after 6pm."

Na-bayad …

Ne-mi-shav-ad

C. TELEOLOGICAL

C1 Teleological Necessity

(24) There is only one main road from Location A to Location B… If you go from Location A to Location B, you HAVE TO take this road.

*Agar be   - khah - i   az   A be B be   - rav - i,   **bayad (hatman)** az   in var*
If   impf.subj - want -2sg from A to B impf.subj - go - 2sg, MOD   definitely from this side

be   - rav - i
Impf.subj - go - 2sg

(Hatman = adverbial [definitely], strengthening *bayad.*
Dropping *hatman* doesn't make it deontic, but weakens the teleological reading.

#majbur

(25) Team A are playing in a tournament/competition/championship. In order to advance… Team A HAS TO beat Team B.

Bayad + (intonation) / (adverbial modification)

Majbur ("we HAVE TO win")

(26) The best pizza in town is sold at Gino's. You have invited your sister for dinner, and you decide to order pizza. You tell your sister: We HAVE TO order from Gino's to eat the best pizza.

Bayad + (intonation) / (adverbial modification)

When using *majbur : 25 (OK), 26 (#), 24(OK/?)*

C2 Teleological Weak Necessity

(27) There are different ways to get to the shopping centre. You can go by foot, by tram/horse-carriage/truck/train/bus/public van, or drive/motorcycle/bicycle yourself. You are not sure how to go. Your friend advises you to get the bus because it is cheaper… To get to the shopping centre, you SHOULD take the bus.

Bayad

Behtar ast ke
Better is that

(28) There are 3 ways to get to the seaside: a direct road, taking smaller roads, or a combination. Your friend says that taking the smaller roads is very beautiful. According to him, you SHOULD go via the smaller roads.

#bayad

(29) Your friend wants to buy a new shirt for her job at a reasonable price. There are many nice shops for professional clothes in the area, and you work at one of them and think it offers good prices. You say: You SHOULD go to my shop to buy a new shirt.

Bayad is good here - as an invitation

C3 Teleological Possibility

(30) There are two different ways to get to the mountains from the city centre. Way 1 is inland and way 2 goes around via the coast. Both take around 7 hours by bus and they are equally beautiful… You CAN take way 1.

*Mi - **tavan**-i   ke   az   masir-e 1 be   -rav-i*
Impf- **MOD**-2sg that from way-ez 1 impf.subj-go-2sg

Mi   - **shav**   - ad   az   masir - e   1 be   - rav - i
Imperf - become - 3sg by   way   - ez 1 imperf.subj - go - 2sg

(31) There are two swimming pools in the town with the exact same design and both are an equal distance from your house. You plan to go swimming later on but have no specific desire for which pool to go to. You tell your sister… We CAN go to the swimming pool to the west.

Mi   - **tavan** - im
Imperf - **MOD** - 1pl

(32) Your friend wants to buy a new shirt for her job. Since there are many nice shops for professional clothes in the area, you say… You CAN go to this boutique.

Mi   - **tavan** - i
Imperf - **MOD** - 2sg

Not tested.

C4 Teleological non-necessity

(27') There are different ways to get to the shopping centre. You can go by foot, by tram/horse-carriage/truck/train/bus/public van, or drive/motorcycle/bicycle yourself. You are not sure how to go. Your friend advises you to get the bus because it is cheaper… To get to the shopping centre, you should take the bus, but you DON'T NEED TO / NEEDN'T do so.

Ama   hatman   na - bayad ba   otubus   be   - rav - i
But   definitely neg - must   with   bus   imperf.subj - go - 2sg
"But it's not the case that you must definitely go by bus"

#(Hatman) lazem n-ist -

Without hatman, infelicity. "you mustn't go with bus", a weaker variant)

C5 Teleological impossibility

(24') There is only one main road from Location A to Location B… If you are going from Location A to Location B, you CAN'T take another road.

*Ne - mi - **tavan** - i   az   rah - e digar-i   be   - rav - i*
Neg - imp - **MOD** - 2sg from   way - ez another-   imperf.subj - go - 2sg

*Ne   - mi   - **shav** - ad az   rah - e digar-i   be   - rav - i*
Neg   - impf - **MOD** - sg   from way - ez another-   imperf.subj - go - 2sg

*Na   - **bayad** az   rah - e digar-i   be   - rav - i*
Neg - **MOD**   from   way - ez another-   imperf.subj - go - 2sg

Dar - am   mi - rav   - am
Aux - 1sg   impf - go.pres - 1sg

Ne is a special variant of negation that co-occurs with imperfective forms. The normal negation *na* cannot co-occur with imperfectives.

(25') Team A are playing in a tournament/competition/championship. In order to advance… Team A CAN'T lose to Team B.

The Same as above

No negation of *Majbur -> majbur n-ist*, it would have the reading "The team is not forced to…"

D. CIRCUMSTANTIAL

D1 Circumstantial Necessity

(33) You are on a bus. You have not had a chance to go to the toilet for 4 hours, and your bladder is full. You text your friend… I HAVE to pee so badly!

Bayad be   - rav - am   dast-shoyi
MOD   imperf.subj - go - 1sg   toilet
'I must go to the toilet' / 'I have to go to the toilet'

(34) In the middle of a conversation, you feel a sneeze coming on… Excuse me! I HAVE to sneeze.

(35') Water is entering a pipe, which has two outputs: the left output and the right output. But, you know that the left output is blocked. And the water is coming out from the right output. You say: the water MUST come out from the right output.

Ab   **_bayad_**   az   khoroji - e   rast   be   - ya   - d   biroon
Water **_mod_**   from   output - ez   right   impf.subj - come - 3sg   out

#Lazem - ast   ab az ….

D3 Circumstantial Possibility

(36) Ani came to visit a small island in the Philippines. She noticed that the climate and many of the plants are similar to some places she visited in Indonesia. The temperature is the same, the rainfall is the same, the types of rocks and the soil are the same. But when she looked around, she didn't find any *duku* trees anywhere. But because the temperature, rainfall, and soil are the same, she thinks that… *duku* trees CAN / #might grow here.

Derakht   - e   *duku*   *mi*   - **_tavan_** - *ad*   *inja*   *dar be*   - *y*   - *ad*
Tree   - ez   duku   imperf - MOD - 3sg   here   at   impf.subj - come - 3sg

*Mi-**shav**-ad*
Imperf-mod-3sg

(37) Amy knows how to make traditional Italian pasta. Now Amy is back in the country she lives in, and she wants to make traditional pasta, but the right kind of ingredients are not sold where she lives. So, she is unhappy because she wanted to show her parents how to make traditional pasta… Amy CAN / #might make traditional Italian pasta (but she does not have the ingredients).

Amy **balad**   *ast*   *pasta*   *be*   *- paz - ad*
Amy knows.how be.pres.3sg   pasta   imperf.sub - cook - 3sg

(38) Ben was in a motorbike accident 3 weeks ago, and he sprained his ankle. Ben is able to walk now. However, the doctor told Ben that he is not allowed to walk until 5 weeks after the accident… Ben CAN walk now.

*Mi   - **tavan** - ad*
Imperf - MOD - 3sg

#*mi - shav - ad* is odd ***"it is possible for him to walk"***

(39) Paul is quite old now, but he is still strong. His children are scared he will hurt his back if he does any intense labour, so they told him that he is forbidden to lift heavy things. But one day, his friend Rob asked to help him in the field, because Rob knows Paul is still strong. So when Rob saw a large rock that had to be moved, he asked P straightaway for help (but he didn't tell Paul's children!). Rob knew that… Paul CAN lift that rock.

***Mi**   - tavan - ad*
Imperf - MOD - 3sg

#*mi-shav-ad* - odd, ***"it is possible for him to lift a rock"***

(40) The travel vans have a limit of 13 people by law. But the drivers don't care, and stop for more than 13 people. Also, the vans are bigger than you think… Travel vans CAN fit 20 people.

*Van-ha-ye mosaferati Mi-**tavan**-and 20 nafar ro ja be-dah-and*
Van-pl-ez travel imperf-MOD-3sg 20 person acc place impf.subj-give-3pl

#*mi-**shav**-ad*

D4. Circumstantial non-necessity

(44) Given the way this volcano has been active in the past 100 years, it is likely but NOT CERTAIN that it will erupt in the next 5 years.

Momken   *ast*   *ama*   **hatmi** *nist*   *ke*
Possible   is   but   certain isn't   (that)

D5. Circumstantial impossibility

(34') In the middle of a conversation, you feel a sneeze coming on… Excuse me! I CAN'T help sneezing!

Ne-mi-tavan-am	*jelo-ye*	*atse-am*	*ro*	*be-gir-am*
neg-impf-MOD-1sg	front-ez	sneez-POSS.1sg	acc	impf.subj-get-1sg

Ne mi-tavan-ad na-rav-am dast-shouyi

(35') Water is entering a pipe, which has two outputs: the left output and the right output. But, you know that the left output is blocked. And the water is coming out from the right output. You say: the water CAN'T come out from the left output.

Ne mi-tavan-ad …
Momken n-ist …

#*na bayad* - doesn't work, nor does it work when negating embedded verb

# *Ab*	***bayad***	*az*	*khoroji*	*- e*	*rast*	*na*	*- ya*	*- d*	*biroon*
Water	**mod**	from	output	- ez	right	neg	- come	- 3sg	out

E. BOULETIC

E1 Bouletic Necessity

(41) You love handbags. You see a really nice handbag in a window and you say… I WANT/NEED TO buy it.

Bayad	*be*	*- khar-*	*am*	*- esh*
Mod	impf.subj	- buy	- 2sg	- it

Mi	*-* ***xah***	*- am*	*be*	*- khar*	*- am*	*- esh*
Impf	- want	- 1sg	Mod	impf.subj - buy	- 2sg	- it

'I must(ish)' with a bouletic flavour
'I want to buy it'

(42) Your friend asks you what you desire/want to do today since it is a holiday and you both are not required to do any tasks today. You say… I WANT to go to the cinema.

Mi   - xah   - am be   - rav - am cinema
Impf - want - 1sg impf.sub - go - 1sg cinema

Plan versus desire ->
***Mi**-xah-am* (plan - stress on the mi, falling and short vowel)
*Mi-**xah-am*** (desire - some sort of rising intonation - vowel lengthening)

(43) A daughter tells her parent… My friend WANTS to come visit me.

Mi-xah-ad
#bayad

Table of Farsi Modals:

MODALS	EPISTEMIC	ROOT/NON-EPISTEMIC			
		PARTICIPANT-EXTERNAL		PARTICIPANT-INTERNAL	
	Epistemic	Deontic	Teleological	Circumstantial	Bouletic
Necessity	**Bayad** (1)	**Bayad** (1) \\ **Lazem ast ke** *(3)* \\ *?* **Majbur ast ke** *(3)*	**Bayad** (1) (+ Adv) \\ **? Majbur ast ke (3)**	**Bayad** (1)	**Bayad** (1) \\ **Xah (2)** (khāstan)
Weak Necessity	**Bayad** (1)[1]	**Bayad** (1) \\ **Behtar ast ke (3)**	**Bayad** (1) \\ **Behtar ast ke (3***)*	—---	—--
Possibility	**Shayad** (1) \\ *Momken ast ke* (3) \\ *Emkan darad ke (3)*	**-tavan- (2)**\\ **-shav- (ke) (2)** \\ **Ejaze dad/dasht**	**-tavan- (2)** \\ **-shav- (2)**	**-tavan- (2)** \\ **-shav- (2)** \\ **Balad ast [ability] (3)**	—--
Non necessity	**Shayad** (1) … **na-v** (verbal negation) \\ **Momken ast** … **na-v** (verbal negation) (3)	**Lazem n-ist- (3)** (negation on copula**)** \\ **Majboor n-ist- (3)** (negation on copula)	***(adv) na-bayad (3)**	**Hatmi nist (ke) (4)**	—--

Impossibility	Momken + nist (3) \\\\ Emkan + na-darad (3) \\\\ Ne + (asp) + tavan (2)	Na-bayad (1) \\\\ ne-(asp)-shav (2)	ne- (asp)-tavan (2) \\\\ ne-(asp)-shav (2) \\\\ Na-bayad (1)	Ne-(asp)-tavan- (2) \\\\ Momken nist (3)	—-

Table of Persian/Farsi modals -

1- EWN '**bayad'** may be modified by adverbial units to distinguish strong from weak necessity

Syntactic types of modal elements - number key:

1 - auxiliary modals Defective, precede verb. Can be in the initial position when the subject is dropped, but syntactically after the subject.	**Bayad / shayad** John **bayad** madrese bashad John MOD school be.subj.3sg 'John must be at school'
2 - (*semi***)-auxiliary modals** Inflected modals, sometimes selects for C.	**-tavan- -shav-** (without C) "You may enter" Mi - **tavan** - i be - ya - i dakhel Imperf - MOD - pres-2sg imperf.subj - come - 2sg inside (With C) 'You CAN take way 1.' Mi - **tavan**-i *ke* az masir-e 1 Impf- *MOD*-2sg that from way-ez 1 be-rav-i impf.subj-go-2sg
3 - *complex predicate modals (Periphrastic modals)* Sit at the head of the clause, select for C	**Lazem ast** (ke) / **majbur ast** (ke) / **behtar ast** (ke) / **emkan darad** (ke)/ momken ast (ke) **Lazem ast** (ke) Bazdidkonandegan bimarestan ra ta sa'at-e 6 tark be - kon -and Necessary be-pres-3sg (that) visitors hospital acc by clock-ez 6 leave impf.subj- do - 3pl
4 - *adverbial modals*	**Hatman/hatmi** Momken ast ama **hatmi** nist ke Possible is but certain isn't (that)

References:

- Taleghani, A. H. (2008). *Modality, aspect and negation in Persian* (Vol. 128). John Benjamins Publishing. (specifically chapter 2 and 3) and Yousef, S., & Torabi, H. (2018). *Persian: A comprehensive grammar*. Routledge. (section 11.10-11)