

# Modals in Hungarian

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

Further revisions by Anne Mucha (2022)

Language name:	Hungarian
ISO 639-3:	hun
Glottolog:	hung1274
Consultant demographics:	A female speaker of Standard Hungarian from Northeast Hungary. She can also provide variation concerning Northeastern vs. Standard Hungarian.
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Note: In addition, this questionnaire has been reviewed by a native speaker specialist

## BODY OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

### A. EPISTEMIC

#### A1 Epistemic Necessity

Target: epistemic vs. deontic necessity.

(3) and (4) target only 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)**.

Úgy gondolom, hogy Ben most úszik.  
so think.npst.1sg that Ben now swim.npst.3sg

Reviewer reports the intuition that this might be too weak, and proposes the following:

Ben most *biztos(an)* úszik.

Ben now surely swim.npst.3sg  
'Ben is surely swimming now.'

(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.**

Jánosnak iskolában **kell** lenni-e/lenni.  
Janos.dat school.in MOD be.inf-3sg/be.inf

Úgy gondolom, János iskolában van.  
so think.npst.1sg, jános school.in be.3sg

The reviewer again reports that this form might be too weak, proposed alternative:

János most **biztos(an)** (az) iskolában van.  
János now surely the school.in be.npst.3sg

(3) (Adapted from von Stechow & Gillies 2007). The math teacher says: There are 3 boxes. The ball is in box A or in box B or in box C. It is not in A. It is not in B. So, **it must be in C.**

A C-ben **kell** lennie.  
The c-in MOD be.inf.3sg

(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 concludes that **the dog must not be in the house.**

A kutya nem **lehet** a házban.  
The dog NEG MOD the house.in

Reviewer would prefer the following form:

A kutya **biztos**, hogy nincs a házban.  
the dog surely that neg.be.npst.3sg the house.in

(*nincs* is a negative existential verb)

## A2 Epistemic Weak Necessity

Target: epistemic weak necessity vs. deontic weak necessity

(6) is also compatible with testing for epistemic possibility.

(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 and your friend asks where Ann is. You say to your friend: **Ann should be at the lake right now.**

*Anna most valószínűleg a tónál van.*  
 Anna now MOD the lake.by be.3sg

Úgy gondolom, hogy Anna most a tónál van.

*Valószínűleg Anna most a tónál van.*  
 MOD Anna now the lake.by be.3sg

Comment:

- *Valószínűleg* means “probably”

Reviewer comment:

- There might not be a form that speakers would agree on in this situation.

Reviewer’s own suggestion:

*Arra tippelek, hogy Ann a tónál van.*  
 that.onto guess.1sg that Ann the lake.at be.npst.3sg

(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.**

*Most valószínűleg esik Goá-ban.*  
 Now MOD rain.3sg Goa-in

(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. You think to yourself: **Mary should be at home.**

*Mari valószínűleg otthon van.*  
 Mary MOD home be.3sg

## A3 Epistemic Possibility

**Target: epistemic possibility vs. epistemic necessity**

**(11) targets epistemic possibility vs. deontic 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 be coming to school today.**

A tanár **lehet**, (hogy) jön ma iskolába (de lehet, hogy nem).  
 The teacher **MOD**, (that) come.3sg today school-to

#A tanár jöhet ma iskolába.

“The teacher is allowed to come”

Comment:

- The consultant feels this sentence has the strong sense of deontic flavor
- Consultant: *hogy* makes *lehet* explicitly epistemic

# Úgy gondolom

(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. She hasn't checked her sister's wardrobe, yet, but **Grace's necklace might be lost**.

Grace nyaklánc **lehet**, hogy elveszett.  
 Grace necklace **MOD**, that prt.lose.past.3sg

Grace nyaklánc *elvesz-het-ett*.  
 Grace necklace prt.lose-**MOD**-past.3sg

Comment:

- *-het-* is a possibility modal affix

(10) Charles is looking for his pet cat, but cannot find it. He knows that his cat is very elusive and mysterious. Charles tells his sister: **The cat may be inside. The cat may also be outside.**<sup>1</sup>

A macska **lehet**, hogy bent van, **lehet**, hogy kint van.  
 The cat **MOD** that inside be.3sg **MOD** that outside be.3sg

Reviewer's suggestion for the second sentence:

Az is **lehet**, hogy kint van  
 that too **MOD** that outside be.npst.3sg

(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 might go to New York**.

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<sup>1</sup> (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).

*Daniel New Yorkba me-het.*  
 Daniel New York.to go-MOD

*Daniel lehet, hogy New Yorkba megy.*  
 Daniel MOD that New York.to go.3sg

## 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 may not be at home.**

*Mary lehet, hogy nincs otthon.*  
 Mary MOD, that not.be home

## 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.**

*Ben nem lehet otthon.*  
 Ben NEG MOD home

*Ben biztos, hogy nincs otthon.*  
 Ben MOD that not.be home

# tilos

(3') The math teacher says: There are 3 boxes. The ball is in box A or in box B or in box C. We opened box A, and the ball is there. There is only one ball. So, **it can't be in C.**

*Nem lehet a C-ben.*  
 NEG MOD the c-in

*Biztos, hogy nincs a C-ben.*  
 MOD that no.be the c-in

## B. DEONTIC

### B1 Deontic Necessity

**Target: deontic necessity**

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

*Bukósisakot kell viselni.*  
Helmet.acc MOD wear.inf

*Muszáj bukósisakot viselni.*  
MOD helmet.acc wear.inf

- *Muszáj* is infelicitous in epistemic contexts. It is a loan from German.

(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.**"

*A látogatóknak el kell hagyniuk a kórházat este 6-ig.*  
The visitors.pl.dat prt MOD leave.inf.3pl the hospital-acc evening 6-until

# *Muszáj*

(because the context is formal, and *muszáj* is informal. Using it in (13) is inappropriate because of politeness reasons)

## B2 Deontic Weak Necessity

**Target: 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.**

*Ünneplő ruhát kellene viselnem a buliba.*  
Formal clothes-acc MOD.cond wear.inf.1sg the party-to

# *Muszáj*

# *kell*

(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!**

*Azoknak, akik nem alkalmazottak is meg kellene mosniuk*  
Those-.dat who.pl not employee.pl too prt MOD.cond wash.inf.3pl

... *mosni a kezüket.*  
... wash.inf the hand.pl.acc

Reviewer comment: A more standard word order would be (because *azoknak* forms a constituent with *is*):

*Azoknak is meg **kellene** mosni/mosniuk a kezüket, akik nem alkalmazottak.*

(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.**

<i>Maszkot</i>	<b>kellene</b>	<i>viselnem.</i>
Face.covering.acc	<b>MOD.cond</b>	wear.inf.1sg

### B3 Deontic Possibility

**Target: deontic possibility vs. deontic necessity**

**(22) and (23) target deontic possibility vs. circumstantial 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, but **Martin may ride the ferris wheel.**

<i>Martin felül-het</i>	<i>az</i>	<i>óriáskerékre.</i>
Martin prt.sit- <b>MOD</b>	the	ferris.wheel.to

(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 after visiting hours. But the really nice nurse says... **You may enter.**

*Bejöhet.*  
prt.come.**MOD**

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

<i>Itt</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>marad - hat - sz,</i>	<i>de</i>	<i>haza</i>	<i>is</i>	<i>me-het - sz.</i>
Here	too	stay - <b>MOD</b> - 2sg	but	home	too	go- <b>MOD</b> - 2sg

(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, although according to the doctor's orders **Alice can lift her baby.**

<i>Alice felemel-het-i</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>babáját.</i>
Alice prt.lift- <b>MOD</b> -3sg	the	baby.poss.3sg.acc

*Alicnek fel szabad emelni a babáját.*  
 Alice prt MOD lift.inf the baby.poss,3sg.acc

(23) Beth's teacher told her class that it was okay to go swimming, but Beth doesn't want to because she has never learnt to swim! However, as far as the teacher's directions are concerned...

**Beth can go swimming.**

*Beth úsz - hat.*  
 Beth swim- MOD

*Bethnek szabad (lesz) úszni.*  
 Beth.dat MOD be.fut swim.inf

## 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.**

*Nem muszáj ünneplő ruhát viselnem.*  
 NEG MOD formal clothes.acc wear.inf.1sg

*Nem kell ünneplő ruhát viselnem.*  
 NEG MOD formal clothes.acc wear.inf.1sg

Comment:

- The consultant prefers *nem muszáj*

(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.**

*Nem kell maszkot viselni.*  
 NEG MOD face.mask.acc wear.inf

*Nem muszáj maszkot viselni.*  
 NEG MOD face.mask.acc wear.inf

## B5 Deontic impossibility



(12') In Indonesia, the law states that when you ride a motor bike... **You mustn't ride a motor bike without a helmet.**

*Tilos bukósisak nélkül motorozni.*  
**MOD** helmet without ride.a.motor.bike.inf

Additional option suggested by the reviewer:

*(Senkinek) nem szabad bukósisak nélkül motorozni.*  
Nobody.dat not **MOD** helmet without ride.a.motor.bike.inf

Peter-nek **tilos** bukósisak nélkül motorozni.

Peter-dat

“For Peter, ...”

Comment:

- *tilos* = “forbidden/prohibited”

(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 mustn't stay after 6pm.**”

*Nem lehet itt tartózkodni este 6 után.*  
NEG **MOD** here stay.inf evening 6 after

Reviewer comment: *szabad* instead of *lehet* would also be ok

*Tilos itt tartózkodni este 6 után.*  
**MOD** here stay.inf evening 6 after

Syntactic distribution of *tilos* vs. other modals:

*Peter-nek fel kell emelni a követ.*  
Peter-dat prt **MOD** lift-inf the rock.acc  
“Peter must lift up the rock”

*Peter-nek muszáj felemelni a követ.*

Péter-nek **tilos** felemelni a követ.  
Peter-dat **MOD** prt.lift the rock.acc  
“Peter mustn't lift up the rock”

## C. TELEOLOGICAL

### C1 Teleological Necessity

**Target: 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.**

*Csak erre lehet menni.*  
Only this.way MOD go.inf

*Csak erre/ezen az úton me-het-sz.*  
Only this.on the street.on go-MOD-2sg  
“You can only take this road.”

*Ezen az úton kell menni.*  
This.on the street.on MOD go.inf

(25) Team A are playing in a tournament. In order to advance... **Team A has to beat Team B.**

*Az A csapatnak le kell győznie a B-t.*  
The A group.dat prt MOD beat.inf.3sg the B-acc

*Az A csapatnak muszáj legyőznie a B-t.*

(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.

*Gino-tól kell rendelni/rendelned.*  
Gino-from MOD order.inf//order.inf.2sg

Comment:

- The consultant feels *muszáj* is not preferred in this context but they can also imagine young people use it to put emphasis.

### C2 Teleological Weak Necessity

**Target: teleological weak necessity**

(27) There are different ways to get to the shopping centre. You can go by foot, by bus, or drive 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.**

<i>A</i>	<i>bevásárló</i>	<i>központba</i>	<i>busszal</i>	<i>kellene</i>	<i>menned.</i>
The	shopping	center-to	bus.instr	<b>MOD.cond</b>	go.inf.2sg

<i>A</i>	<i>bevásárló</i>	<i>központba</i>	<i>az</i>	<i>lenne</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>legjobb,</i>	<i>ha</i>	<i>busszal</i>	<i>....</i>
The	shopping	center.to	the	be.inf	the	best	if	bus.instr	...

... *mennél*  
... go.inf.2sg

(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.**

<i>A</i>	<i>kisebb utakon / mellékutakon</i>	<i>kellene</i>	<i>menned.</i>
The	smaller road.pl.on / side.road.pl.on	<b>MOD.cond</b>	go.inf.2sg

(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.**

<i>El</i>	<i>kell / kellene</i>	<i>jönnöd</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>boltomba</i>	<i>új</i>	<i>inget</i>	<i>venni.</i>
Prt	<b>MOD / MOD.cond</b>	come.inf.2sg	the	shop.to	new	shirt.acc	buy.inf

Comment:

- With *kell*, it seems to be pushy, indicates that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity

The reviewer would prefer the following alternative:

<i>Az</i>	<i>én</i>	<i>boltomba</i>	<i>kellene</i>	<i>eljönnöd</i>	<i>új</i>	<i>inget</i>	<i>venni.</i>
the	I	shop.my.into	<b>MOD.cond</b>	prt.come.inf.2sg	new	shirt.acc	buy.inf

### C3 Teleological Possibility

**Target: 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.**

<i>Me-het-sz</i>	<i>az</i>	<i>első</i>	<i>úton.</i>
Go-MOD-2sg	the	first	road.on

(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.**

*Me-het-ünk*    *a*    *nyugati*    *uszodába.*  
Go-MOD-2sg    the    western    swimming-to

*Tudunk*    *menni*    *a*    *nyugati*    *uszodába.*  
MOD.2pl    go.inf    the    western    swimming.pool-to

(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.**

*Me-het-sz*    *ebbe*    *a*    *ruhaboltba.*  
Go-MOD-2sg    this.to    the    boutique.to

Comment:

- *Tudsz* also possible

Reviewer's suggestion:

*El-me-het-sz ...*  
vm-go-MOD-2sg

## C4 Teleological non-necessity

(27') There are different ways to get to the shopping centre. You can go by foot, by bus, or drive 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 take the bus.**

*Nem*    *kell*    *busszal*    *menned.*  
NEG    MOD    bus-inst    go.inf.2sg

*Nem*    *szükséges*    *busszal*    *menned.*  
NEG    MOD    bus.inst    go.inf.2sg

## 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.**

*Nem*    *tudsz*    *más*    *úton*    *menni.*

NEG MOD.2sg other road.on go.inf

Nem **lehet** más úton menni.

NEG MOD other road go.inf

# *tilos*

Comment:

- If *tilos* is used, it indicates that there is in principle another possibility, which is forbidden

(25') Team A are playing in a tournament. In order to advance... **Team A can't lose to Team B.**

Az A csapat nem veszít-**het**-Ø B-vel szemben.

The A team not lose-MOD-3sg B-with against-with

## D. CIRCUMSTANTIAL

### D1 Circumstantial Necessity

**Target: circumstantial necessity; (35) with inanimate subject**

(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!**

Nagyon pisilnem **kell**.

Very pee.inf.1sg MOD

Alternative word order (preferred by the reviewer): Nagyon **kell** pisilnem.

**Muszáj** pisilnem.

MOD pee.inf.1sg

Reviewer's intuition: Would only be appropriate if I indeed had the opportunity to pee.

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

Hapciznom **kell**.

Sneeze.inf.1sg MOD

Reviewer comment: *Hapciznom* is an expression from child language. The more standard form would be:

*Tüsszentenem* **kell**.

Sneeze.inf.1sg MOD

*Muszáj hapticiznom.*

**MOD** sneeze.inf.1sg

(35) Water is entering a pipe, which has two outputs: the left output and the right output. You block the left output so that **the water must come out from the right output**.

*A víznek a jobb oldalon kell kifolynia.*  
The water.dat the right side.on **MOD** prt.come.inf.3sg

### D3 Circumstantial Possibility

**Target: (36) & (37) circumstantial possibility vs. epistemic possibility**

**(38) circumstantial possibility**

**(39) & (40) circumstantial possibility vs. deontic 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, where *duku* trees grow. 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 grow here**.

*Duku fák tudnának itt nőni.*  
Duku tree.pl **MOD.cond.3pl** here grow.inf

Comment:

- *tudnak* is fine if there is evidence that the tree was in the island in the past
- Consultant: It also depends on the speaker's knowledge/qualification of asserting the relevant possibility claim. If the speaker has the relevant qualifications, they may use *tudnak*

(37) Amy was in Italy and learned 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 make traditional Italian pasta** (but she does not have the ingredients).

*Amy képes hagyományos olasz tésztát készíteni.*  
Amy **MOD** traditional Italian pasta.acc make.inf

Reviewer comment: *tud* instead of *képes* would also be fine

Amy ***tud-na-Ø*** hagyományos olasz tésztát készíteni, de nincsenek hozzávalói.  
Amy **MOD-cond-3sg** traditional Italian pasta.acc make.inf but not.exist.npst.3pl ingredients.her

(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.**

*Ben már tud sétálni.*  
Ben already MOD walk.inf

*Ben már képes sétálni.*  
Ben already MOD walk.inf

(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 Paul straightaway for help (but he didn't tell Paul's children!). Rob knew that... **Paul can lift that rock.**

*Pál fel tudja emelni a követ.*  
Pál prt MOD.3sg lift.inf the rock.acc

*Pál képes fel-emelni ...*

(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... **The travel vans can fit 20 people.**

*A kisbuszban el tud férni 20 ember is.*  
The small.bus.in prt MOD fit.inf 20 person too

Reviewer comment: the following would be more standard:

*A kisbuszban elfér 20 ember is*  
the small.bus.in vm.fit.npst.3sg 20 person too

#### 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. **The volcano doesn't have to erupt.**

*A vulkán nem feltétlenül fog kitörni.*  
The volcano not without.condition will prt.break.inf

*A vulkán nem biztos, hogy ki fog törni.*  
The volcano NEG MOD that prt will break.inf

## D5. Circumstantial impossibility

(34') Ben was in a motorbike accident 3 weeks ago. He sprained his ankle and is in a lot of pain.

**Ben can't walk.**

*Ben    nem    képes / nem tud    sétálni / menni.*  
Ben    NEG    MOD / NEG MOD    walk.inf / go.inf

(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.**

*A       víz    nem    tud    jönni    a    bal    oldali    csapból.*  
The    water   NEG   MOD   come.inf the    left    side    pipe-from

(36') Ani came to visit a small Caribbean island. She noticed that the climate and many of the plants are very different to the places she visited in Indonesia, where *duku* trees grow. The types of rocks and the soil are different as well. She doesn't know whether or not there are *duku* trees on the island. But because the temperature, rainfall, and soil are so different, she thinks that... **duku trees can't grow here.**

*Duku    fák    nem    tud.(ná).nak    itt    nőni.*  
Duku   tree.pl   not   MOD.(cond).3pl    here    grow.inf

## E. BOULETIC

### E1 Bouletic Necessity

**Target: bouletic necessity**

**(42) targets bouletic necessity vs. deontic necessity**

(41) You love handbags. You see a really nice handbag in a window and you say... **I must buy it.**

*Ezt       meg    kell    vennem.*  
This.acc prt    MOD    buy.inf.1sg

*Ezt       muszáj    megvennem.*  
This.acc MOD    prt.buy.inf.1sg



(42) Your friend asks you what you want to do today since it is a holiday and you both are not required to do any tasks today. However, you absolutely want to see this new movie that everyone is talking about- You say... **I must go to the cinema.**

<i>El</i>	<b><i>kell</i></b>	<i>mennem</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>moziba.</i>
Prt	<b>MOD</b>	go.inf.1sg	the	cinema-to.

(43) A daughter tells her parent... **My friend wants to come visit me.**

<i>A</i>	<i>barátom</i>	<i>el</i>	<b><i>akar</i></b>	<i>jönni</i>	<i>meglátogatni.</i>
The	friend.poss.1sg	prt	want.3sg	come.inf	prt.visit.inf

Table of Hungarian Modals:

MODALS	EPISTEMIC	ROOT/NON-EPISTEMIC			
		PARTICIPANT-EXTERNAL		PARTICIPANT-INTERNAL	
	Epistemic	Deontic	Teleological	Circumstantial	Bouletic
<b>Necessity</b>	kell <sup>AV</sup>  biztos(an)	kell <sup>AV</sup>  muszáj <sup>N</sup>	kell <sup>AV</sup>	kell <sup>AV</sup>  muszáj <sup>N</sup>	kell <sup>AV</sup>  muszáj <sup>N</sup>  akarnak (want)
<b>Weak Necessity</b>	valószínűleg <sup>ADV</sup>	kellene <sup>AV</sup> (conditional of <i>kell</i> )	kellene <sup>AV</sup> (conditional of <i>kell</i> )	n/a	n/a
<b>Possibility</b>	lehet <sup>AV</sup>  V-het(-) <sup>&lt;...&gt;</sup>	V-het(-) <sup>&lt;...&gt;</sup>  szabad	V-het(-) <sup>&lt;...&gt;</sup>  tudsz	tud- <sup>AV</sup>  Képes <sup>ADJ</sup> [kep]- <sup>AV</sup>	n/a
<b>Non-necessity</b>	lehet <sup>AV</sup> + hogy (= COMP) + [NEG...]	NEG + kell <sup>AV</sup>  NEG + muszáj <sup>N</sup>	NEG + kell  NEG + szükséges	NEG + biztos hogy (COMP)	
<b>Impossibility</b>	NEG + [lehet // V-het(-)]	tilos <sup>ADJ</sup>	NEG + lehet  NEG + tudsz	NEG + [tud- // kep-]	

		NEG + szabad			
		NEG + lehet			

Key:

AV: Auxiliary verb. Access to full inflectional paradigm and combine with non-finite verbs.

AV/N: Verbal/Nominal. *Múszaj* appears clause-initially and does not inflect (traditionally), and is generally analyzed as a noun or nominal particle. It may be undergoing a current change to syntactic category (consultant reports younger people may inflect it like a verb).

ADJ: An adjective. *Tilos* = “forbidden” and occurs clause-initially. Can be inflected for number agreement with a noun, suggestive of an adjective.

ADV: Adverb. *Valószínű-leg* = “probab-ly.”

<...>: Agglutinative infix, etymologically related to an auxiliary verb. Placed between verb stem and agreement.

The distinction between auxiliary verbs *tud-* and *kep-* is not entirely clear, but they occur in similar contexts.

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