Modals in Thai

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Language name: Thai

ISO 639-3: tha

Glottolog: thai1261

Consultant demographics: A male speaker of the standard central variety of Thai.

He grew up in Thailand, schooled in English both in Thailand

and the UK.

He can read and write Thai (not working professional level), and

speaks it at home.

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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 dong wainam (dorn ni)
Ben MOD swim (right now)

Ben dong ca wainam

• not preferable, but still a possible grammatical variant

Ben jam bpen dong wainam
Ben MOD wainam

^{*}Ben jam bpen wainam

(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 dong yuu tii rongrein John MOD exist LOC school

John **dong** ca yuu tii rongrein John MOD ca exist LOC school [again, a possible grammatical variant]

(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.

Mun dong yuu tii C
It MOD exist LOC 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.

Maa dong mai yuu nai baan dog MOD neg exist inside house

Maa dong (ca) mai yuu nai baan Dog MOD (ca) neg exist inside house

(Jam bpen)+dong

Jam bpen is optional before dong and felicitous in all contexts above.

Jam bpen always co-occurs with dong: [jam bpen *(dong)]

A2 Epistemic Weak Necessity

(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.

Ann **naa** *(ca) yuu tii talae saab dorn ni Ann **kuan** *(ca) yuu tii talae saab dorn ni

(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.

```
Naa *(ca) phon dok
MOD ca rain fall

Kuan *(ca) phon dok
MOD ca rain fall

[more formal register]
```

(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.

```
Mary naa *(ca) yuu tii baan
Mary MOD ca exist loc home

Mary kuan *(ca) yuu tii baan
Mary MOD ca exist loc home
```

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.

```
Kao
            *(ca) maa tii
                            rongrein wannii
      aat
3.SG
      MOD
            ca come LOC school
                                     today
Kao
      kong *(ca) maa
                        tii
                              rongrein wannii
3.SG
      MOD
             ca
                 come LOC
                              school
                                       today
```

- Kong being the more formal variant, and something more likely to be written rather than spoken. *Aat ca* is more comfortable when used speaking (i.e., a less formal variant)
- (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.

```
(Saikor kong Grace) aat *(ca) tam hay
(Necklace POSS Grace) MOD ca do lost
```

(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).

```
Mew aat *(ca) yuu klang nai. Mew aat *(ca) yuu klang nork,
Cat mod ca exist inside. Cat MOD ca exist outside.
```

(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.

```
Khun kid wa daniel aat *(ca) pai new york
2.sg think that daniel MOD ca go new york
```

• Kong interchangeable, but there remains the register difference.

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.

```
Mary naa *(ca) yuu tii baan, dae khao aat ca mai yuu Mary MOD ca exist LOC house, but 3sg MOD ca not exist

Mary naa *(ca) yuu tii baan, ter mai ner jai wa
Mary MOD ca exist LOC house, 2sg neg (certain) that?
```

• With *mai dong* - consultant says that the reading is more along the lines of Mary is not required to be in the house' (neg > deontic nec)

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 yuu tii baan mai dai
Ben exist LOC house NEG MOD
```

Ben harm yuu tii baan Ben MOD exist loc house

| (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. | |

... mai **dai** ...

• The same modal as 1'

*harm

Harm is impossible here

B. DEONTIC

B1 Deontic Necessity

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

```
Jambpen [dong] (ca)suammuakgonokMODCAwearhelmet
```

A lot more *authoritative* than...

```
Dong (ca) suam muakgonok
MOD ca wear helmet
```

... which is less so.

(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."

```
Jampben dongoorkjarkhongkhonkhai gorn6 moongMODleave-roombefore6 o'clock
```

• This is more formal again, as in a rule that could be written or firmly spoken

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.

Chan sonkuan daeng dour gorn supaab pai party I MOD dress body formal ahead of party

Chan **kuan** daeng dour...
I **MOD** dress body...

Chan naa ca daeng dour

I mod CA dress body...

- Naa not infelicitous, but not the first example to come to mind
- (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!

Khon tii mai chay panak-knarn **sonkuan** laang mer duay Person LOC NEG be employee MOD wash hand also

Khon tii mai chay panak-knarn kuan (ca) laang mer duay Person LOC NEG be employee MOD wash hand also

Khon tii mai chay panak-knarn **naa** (ca) laang mer duay Person LOC NEG be employee MOD wash hand also

(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.

sonkuan/kuan (ca) sai naa garkMOD ca put-on face mask

Naa (ca) sai naa gark MOD ca put-on face mask

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 **anuyard** len chingchar sawan Martin **permission** play ferris wheel

Martin mii **anuyard** len chingchar sawan Marin have **permission** play ferris wheel

Martin len chinachar sawan dai

Martin play ferris wheel MOD

#Aat ca # Kong ca (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.

```
Anuyard hai kow maa dai (formal)

Permission give enter come MOD
```

Kow maa dai (conversational/neutral register)
Enter come MOD
'You can come in'

(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.

```
Pak tii nii dai, ler garb baan dai.
Stay LOC here MOD, or return home MOD
```

(Anuyard) pak tii nii dai, ler garb baan dai. (Permission) Stay LOC here MOD, or return home MOD

• with anuyard, it is used in a more formal register. For example, you would not say it to a friend

Aat ca pak tii nii dai MOD CA stay LOC here MOD

(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.

Alice vok dek dai Alice lift baby **MOD** Alice anuvard dek mii vok Alice has permission lift 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.

Beth mi **anuyard** pai wainam Beth has permission go swim

Beth wainam dai
Beth swim mod

#Beth aat ca pai wainam

[not a permission, but rather not too sure about what the outcome it. May or may not]

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.

```
... (chan) mai jambpen (dong) daeng dour supbarb

(1.sg) neg mod (mod) dress body formal
```

"... I don't have to wear formal clothes"

(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.

```
... dae mai jambpen
But NEG MOD
```

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.

| • | motorcycle | <i>mai dai</i> NEG can | <i>taa</i> if | | <i>muakganork</i> helmet |
|----------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| | J | | | C | |
| Harm Prohib | <i>key</i> ited ride | <i>motacai</i> motorcycle | <i>taa</i> if | | <i>muakganor</i> helmet |

Mary harm key motacai taa mai suan muakganor "Mary can't ride a motorbike without 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 NOT / MAY NOT stay after 6pm."
 - (1) Yardpubuay harm yuu lang hok morng
 patient.visitor prohibited exist after six o'clock
 'Visitors are prohibited from staying after 6pm'
 - (2) Yardpubuay yuu mai dai lang hok morng
 patient.visitor exist neg MOD after six o'clock

 'Visitors can not stay after 6pm'
 - (3) ?Yardpubuay dong mai yuu lang hok morng
 patient.viisitor MOD neg exist after six o'clock
 'Visitors must not stay after six o'clock.'

Comment: Using 'harm' is totally fine, and probably the most preferable/natural in the hospital context. (2) is also fine. (3) mirrors the English and makes sense but is definitely not preferable.

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.

Khun **jambpen dong** chay tanon sai nii 2.SG MOD MOD use road CL DET (25) Team A are playing in a tournament/competition/championship. In order to advance... Team A HAS TO beat Team B.

```
Team A (jambpen) dong cha-na | tow nan

Team A MOD MOD win | 'by any means necessary'

Team A (jambpen) dong cha-na hai dai

Team A MOD MOD win give MOD
```

(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.

```
Lao (jambpen) dong sang pizza tii laan gino
3.PL MOD MOD order pizza LOC shop gino
```

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.

```
kuannanglodbusShouldsitcarbus(sonkuannanglodbus)(Shouldsitcarbus)
```

(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.

```
    Kuan pai taang lek
    Mod go route small
    (Sonkuan pai taang lek)
    (MOD go route small)
```

(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.

```
Khun kuan maa lan chan
2.SG MOD come shop 1.SG

Khun kuan (ca) maa lan chan
2.SG MOD CA come shop 1.SG
```

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.

```
Pai
       taang
                      dai
Go
       route
               1
                      mod
Saamaat
                      taang
                             1
                                     (dai)
              pai
Ability.mod
                                     MOD
              go
                      route
```

#anuyard

(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.

Dai Saamat

(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.

Dai

Saamaat

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.

```
... dae gor mai dong jambpen
But also? NEG MOD MOD
```

```
... dae gor mai jambpen
But also? Neg MOD

... dae gor mai dong
But also? NEG MOD
```

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.

Mai saamart chay tanon anern

NEG mod use road another

Chay tanon anern mai dai
Use road another NEG MOD

If ambiguity is raised, then this one is used...

SaamaatchaytanonanernmaidaiMODuseroadanotherNEGMOD

Harm chay tanon anern

MOD use road another

Team A lose **NEG**

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

```
Team A harm pae dae kart

Team A must-not lose by any-means-necessary

Team A pae mai dai
```

MOD

Harm here seems to be exaggerated. You are supporting a team and you are putting obligation to the team.

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!

Chan dong pai shee 1SG MOD go pee

• Jampen dong as a formal register, could be used but maybe not in this context

Chan dong CA pai shee 1sg MOD CA go pee

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

Kor tood, chan dong jaam
Excuse me, 1SG mod sneeze

- Jampben dong also possible justifiable after the excuse me
- (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.

Nam **dong** lai maa tang kwa Water mod flow come direction right

- Ca can be used as some sort of prediction
 - Ca is in principle possible in (35')
 - If the waters already flowing perhaps as some sort of discourse marker like 'obviously'
- + Jampben / available

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.

(Saamaat) bork don duku dai Ability grow tree duku can (mod)

- DAI on its own ambiguity. Deontic versus circumstantial saamaat could come and disambiguate
- (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).

```
Saamaat tam ahaan pajamchard italy dai
Ability do food traditional italy can(mod)
```

(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.

(saamaat) + (dai)

- (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.
 - Same as above, including the ambiguity with (DAI)
 - If the context was deontic instead -> Anuyard (same patterns as deontic)
- (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.
 - Samart works with the inanimate things
 - Same patterns with the *saamaat* ... *dai*
 - Inanimate subject less likely to drop here

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.

```
Aat ca labert dae mai nae jai...

Might CA erupt but not (to be) certain
```

- Mai (jampben) dong it doesn't have to erupt
- Ca will just solidify the future reading hosted by adverbial 'in the next 5 years'

[Aat ca dae mai jampben dong]

• 'It might explode, but it doesn't have to...' - could be interpreted as some sort of epistemic

Context: teacher says 'before you get on the bus, you need to go to the loo' - you don't have to go, so you say: I don't HAVE TO go to the loo

Mai dong khao hongnam Neg + mod enter toilet

D5. Circumstantial impossibility

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

```
Mai samaat yud jarm dai
Neg ability stop sneeze mod
```

Without samart: yud jarm mai dai -

#harm

(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.

Nam mai **samart** lai tang sai **dai**Water neg ability flow direction left mod

• Man lai tang sai **mai dai**

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.

```
Yark ser grapao -> want
Want buy bag
??
Dong ser grapao -> 'more need like'
```

(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.

Yark pai loongnang Want go cinema (43) A daughter tells her parent... My friend WANTS to come visit me. *Puen yark maa har chan*Friend want come visit me

Table of Thai Modals:

| MODALS | EPISTEMIC | ROOT/NON-EPISTEMIC | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| | | PARTICIPA | NT-EXTERNAL | PARTICIPANT-I | NTERNAL | |
| | Epistemic | Deontic | Teleological | Circumstantial | Bouletic | |
| Necessity | Dong (ca)(1) | Dong (ca)(a)(1) | Dong (ca)(a)(1) | Dong (ca) (a)(1) | Yark (a)(1/2) | |
| | \\ Lombu on | \\\ | \\ | Jambpen dong | \\\ D ong (g) | |
| | Jambpen | Jambpen Dong (ca)(a)(2) | Jambpen Dong (a)(2) | (a)(2) | Dong (a) (1) | |
| Weak Necessity | Naa ca (a)(1) | Sonkuan (a)(2) | Sonkuan (a)(2) | _ | 1 | |
| | Kuan ca | \\ Kuan | \\ Kuan (ca) | | | |
| | (a)(2) | (a)(1) | (a)(1) | | | |
| | | \\ Naa (a)(1) | | | | |
| Possibility | Aat ca (a)(1) | Anuyard (a)(2) | Saamaat (a) (2) | Saamaat (a)(2) | _ | |
| | \\ \ | | 11 | 11 | | |
| | Kong ca (a)(2) | Dai (b)(1) | Dai (b) (1) | Dai (b) (1) | | |
| | | | \\ | \\ | | |

| | | | Saamaat dai (a + b) (2) | Saamaat dai (a + b) (2) | |
|---------------|------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Non necessity | Aat ca + NEG (mai) (a) | Mai jambpen (a) \\ Mai jambpen | Mai dong jambpen (a) (2) \\ Mai jambpen (a) (2) | Mai dong (a) (1) | _ |
| | | dong (a) | Mai dong (a) (1) | | |
| Impossibility | mai dai (b) | Mai dai (b)(1) | Mai dai (b) | Mai dai (b)(1) | - |
| | | Harm (a)(2) | Saamaat mai dai (asaam + b) (2)* | Mai saamaat dai (a+b) (2) | |

MAI - read as NEG

Syntactic class

| (a) Modal particles: | dong/jambpen dong / naa ca / kuan ca/ aat ca / kong ca |
|-----------------------------|--|
| (b) Sentence final particle | dai |

Register Difference

| (1) Conversational | Dong | \ Naa ca | \ Aat ca | \-dai \(mai) dai | |
|--------------------|------|----------|----------|------------------|--|
| register | | | | | |

(2) Formal register Jambpen dong \ Kuan ca \ Kong ca \ anuyard \ \ (mai) saamaart dai

<u>Table of Thai modals from a reference grammar</u> -

Smyth, D. (2005). Thai: An essential grammar. Routledge.

Iwasaki, S., Ingkaphirom, P., & Horie, I. P. (2005). *A reference grammar of Thai*. Cambridge University Press.

| MODALS | EPISTEMIC | ROOT/NON-EPISTEMIC | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|--------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--|
| | | PARTICIPA | NT-EXTERNAL | PARTICIPANT-I | NTERNAL | |
| | Epistemic | Deontic | Teleological | Circumstantial | Bouletic | |
| Necessity | ด้อง Dtông/tôn \\\ จำเป็น(จะ) jam bpen (ca) \\\ จำเป็นต้อง jam bpen dtông | ดือง dtông/tôŋ ดืองจำเป็น Campen dtông/tôŋ | | Й∂Ч Dtông/tôŋ | อยาก yàak | |
| Weak Necessity | ควร+(จะ) Khuan + (ca) \\ นำ+(จะ) nâa+ (ca) | ควร + (จะ) Khuan + (ca) \\ นา+(จะ) Nâa + (ca) | | | | |
| Possibility | อาจ+(จะ) Àat + (ca) \\ คง+(จะ) Kong + (ca) | อาจ+(จะ) Àat + (ca) [?] | | ได้ Dâai \\ เป็น bpen ^ | | |
| Non necessity | มิ น่าจะ May + nâa + (ca) | ไม่ + ต้อง May+ Dtong /tɔ̂ŋ | | | | |

| Impossibility | ต้อง+ไม่ Dtông /tôŋ+ May | ต้อง + ไม่ Dtông /tôŋ+ May | | |
|---------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| | สามารถ May + săamâat \\ | | | |
| | | | | |

 $^{^{\}wedge}$ = apparently used when referring to ability through practise 9 - ca, can act as a future tense marker

(https://www.thai2english.com/) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_11940-2