Modal verbs: 'can', 'could', and 'might'

Modal verbs are words that accompany the main verbs in a sentence to express a specific meaning. They add a second idea, which can be of possibility, ability, or permission.

CAN and CAN'T/ CANNOT

It means that something can indeed be done, and the person is capable of doing it.

- shows ability:

    *" We **can** optimize the database queries to improve performance."*

- shows permission:

    *" You **can** debug the code after I finish the application"*

- offers or ask something:

    *" **Can** I help you with the coding?"*
    *" **Can** you do the review for me?*

COULD and COULDN'T

It is used to express possibility as well as to make suggestions and requests.

- shows possibility:

    *"We **could** implement automated testing for better code quality."*

- shows suggestion:

    *" We **could** enhance the security by implementing encryption techniques."*

- polite request:

    *" **Could** you estimate the time required to complete this task?"*