

Reference

Modals

1. The modal auxiliaries are:

must, have to, can, could, may, might, should, ought to.

2. Modal auxiliaries:

- i. add a special meaning to the verb following, e.g. have to indicates necessity
- ii. do not take 's' in the 3rd person singular, e.g. he should
- iii. are followed by the bare infinitive, e.g. he should do it.

NOTE: 1. Will and shall are tense auxiliaries. They are used to indicate time,

e.g. I will do it tomorrow.

2. The chart below gives the meaning of the modals and their present, past and future forms.

<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Present</u>	<u>Past</u>	<u>Future</u>
Necessity have to must	have/has to must	had to had to	will/shall/have to must
Advisability/Obligation should ought to	should ought to	should have ought to have	should ought to
Ability can be able to	can/could am } is } able to are }	could was } were } able to	can shall } will } be able to
Permission may can	may/might can/could		may/might can/could
Possibility may	may/might	may } might } have	may/might

Modals
Have To

Directions: Read the following situations and answer the questions in complete sentences, using your own ideas.

- e.g. 1. You don't have any change to make a phone call. What will you have to do?

I will have to borrow a quarter from my friend.

2. Anne wants to work for the government. The official said, "You can't work here without a knowledge of French." What does Anne have to do?
- _____
3. Jane is entering the hospital with a cigarette in her hand. There's a sign saying "NO SMOKING". What does she have to do?
- _____
4. You've just won \$1,000,000.00. What are two things you don't have to do anymore?
- a. _____
- b. _____
5. You are too sick to go to work. What do you have to do?
- _____
6. Ruth is over 65. What are two things she doesn't have to do?
- a. _____
- b. _____
7. George was driving to work when his car hit another car. What did he have to do?
- _____
8. Mike wanted to call his girlfriend up but he didn't have her telephone number. What did he have to do?
- _____
9. You receive a family allowance cheque every month. When you fill in your income tax return, what do you have to do?
- _____
10. Your landlord wants to raise the rent. You can't afford it. What do you have to do?
- _____

Modals
Have To

Directions: Read the following situations and make questions using **have to**.

- e.g. 1. You've been invited to a house party. Ask the hostess if it's necessary to get dressed up.

Do I have to get dressed up for the party?

2. Your son, John, wants to work after school but he doesn't have a S.I.N. card. Ask his boss if it's necessary for him to have one.

3. Sandra didn't show up for class yesterday. Ask her if it was necessary for her to work.

4. Sam just arrived in Canada last week and found a job as a waiter. Ask him if it wasn't necessary to get a work permit first.

5. Mary bought a fur coat yesterday. She had to pay a lot of money for it. Ask her how much.

6. The doctor told your mother she had to take off 20 pounds. You don't understand why. Ask the doctor.

7. Mary must be at school early. You promised to call for her, but you aren't sure of the exact time to pick her up. Ask her.

8. It was necessary for Anne to quit her English class. Ask her why.

9. The doctor told you it was necessary to stay in bed for a while. You don't know exactly how long. Ask her.

10. The person sitting next to you is annoying you by hitting the desk with a pencil. Ask him if it is necessary for him to do it.

Modals
May/Might

Directions: Make guesses about the following situations. Use may or might in your answer.

e.g. 1. What is the weather going to be like tomorrow?

It might be sunny.

2. What will happen to the value of the Canadian dollar in the next year?

3. I've lost my keys. Make a guess about where they are.

4. What kind of work will you be doing in five years?

5. Which country will be the richest in the world fifty years from now?

6. What will we do after this exercise?

7. How long are you going to keep your car?

8. I can't find Frank. Make a guess about where he is.

9. Choose someone in the class whose nationality you don't know for sure. Now make a guess.

10. A police car is speeding down the street where you live. Make a guess about where it's going.

11. How old do you think this building is?

12. Your teacher told the class to bring a dollar to class the next day. Make a guess about what it is for.

Modals

Couldn't

Directions: The following is an incomplete story about what Fred did last weekend. Add the information about what Fred couldn't do.

At first, Fred had planned to leave for Seattle on Friday morning, but his boss didn't give him the day off.

He couldn't leave on Friday morning.

After work he tried calling a friend to see if she wanted to join him. She had left her phone off the hook.

Fred left early Saturday morning. It was raining and his windshield wipers didn't work.

In Seattle, he went to an old friend's house. The friend no longer lived there.

In a store he saw a jacket that he liked. It cost more than he had.

When he returned to Canada, he didn't bother telling customs about two bottles of whiskey he had bought. The customs officer found the bottles and confiscated them.

He pulled into a gas station but it was closed.

Finally, he arrived home. Unfortunately, the house key was not in his pocket.

Somehow he climbed through a window. He was tired and he went to bed but the neighbours were making too much noise.

Modals

Should

Directions: Read the following situations with your partner and take turns asking and answering the questions.

e.g. 1. You don't like your apartment but it's cheap. (move?)

Should I move?

Yes, I think you should.

2. You have a problem. (see a counsellor?)

3. You don't like studying English. (leave school?)

4. There's something wrong with your finger. (see the nurse?)

5. I'm going to show you a film. (close drapes?)

6. Mary can't see very well. (see an optometrist?)

7. Our friend is in the hospital. (visit?)

8. You are going out. (take a coat?)

9. There are two planes for New York. (which take?)

10. Your car is old. It is not running well. (buy a new one?)

11. Maria has the hiccups. (get her a glass of water?)

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