# **第 4 讲 情态动词 (一)** (1)

这一讲我们讲情态动词。首先我们来了解一下情态动词的一些主要特征。

# 情态动词的特征

情态动词是一种特殊的助动词。它具有以下一些特征:

1) 具有一定的词义, 能表示说话者对主要动词所表示的动作或状态的某种看法。

can 能,会,可能

may 可以,可能

must 必须,应当,一定,准是

need 需要

should 应该

ought to 应该

(2)

2) 不能单独作谓语,必须和另一主要动词(行为动词,动词 be,动词 have)一起构成合成谓语。如:

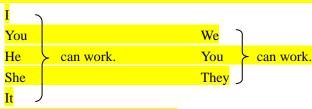
<mark>I can speak</mark> English. 我会说英语。

He **must be** ill. 他准是病了。

They may have a computer. 他们也许有台计算机。

(3)

3) 没有人称和数的变化, 第三人称单数的现在时也无变化。以情态动词 can 为例:



4) 情态动词后大都跟动词原形。

He may be a worker. 他也许是个工人。 (be 是 is, am, are, was, were 的原形)

They can *help* us. 他们能帮助我们。

(4)

#### 情态动词的过去式

有些情态动词有过去式,有的过去式和它的原形相同。

① 有过去式的情态动词:

can—could will—would may—might shall—should

② 过去式不变的情态动词有:

must—must need—need

注意: need 如用作行为动词,其过去式和过去分词都是"needed"。 (5)

# 情态动词 can 的用法

1)表示"能力"。

Tom can speak Chinese. 汤姆会说中文。

She can ride a bike. 她会骑自行车。

I cannot play the piano. 我不会弹钢琴。

Can you do the job within two hours? 你能在两小时内做完这工作吗?

2) 表示"允许"。

You can go now. 你现在可以走了。

You can't watch TV every day. 你不可以每天看电视。

Can I smoke here? 我可以在这儿抽烟吗?

Can I use your pen? 我可以用你的笔吗?

注意:表示"允许"时,用 may, could 会显得更客气些。如:

Could / May I go now? 现在我可以走了吗?

3) 表示可能性, 多用于否定句和疑问句中。

It can't be true. 这不可能是真的。

Can it be a mistake? 这会是个错误吗?

They can't help him. 他们不可能帮助他。

She can't be asleep. There's a light on in her bedroom. 她不可能在睡觉,她的卧室里还 有灯亮着。 (7)

# could 的用法

1) can 的过去式,表示能力或可能性。

He could speak English when he was six. 他六岁时会说英语。

I couldn't go to school yesterday. 昨天我没能去上学。

2) could 有时不表示过去时间,而用于代替 can 表示有礼貌的请求。

Could(can) you lend me the book? 你把这本书借给我行吗?

Could(can) I speak to Ann, please? 我可以和安通电话吗?

#### be able to 的用法

1) 表示"能力",含义相当于 can。

He can do the work. 他能干这工作。 He is able to do the work.

No one can answer the question.

没有人能回答这个问题。 No one is able to answer the question.

(9)

(8)

(6)

注意:如表示"允许"、"可能性",不能用 be bale to 来替代 can。

2) be able to 有更多的时态形式:

able to 表示现在

are
was
were
able to 表示过去

were
able to 表示将来(shall 用于第一人称单、复数)
它们的否定式和疑问式如下:

Can he do the work?
Is he able to do the work?
I couldn't go to the meeting.
I wasn't able to go to the meeting.

Can you come tonight?
Will you be able to come tonight?

work

\*\*Time The couldn't wasn't able to go to the meeting.

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\*\*Time The couldn't wasn't wasn'

注意: 当要表明过去某时一个动作已经成功地完成时,须用 were/was able to,不可用 could。此时的 were / was able to 等同于 managed to 或 succeeded in。

He didn't agree with me at first but I was able to persuade him. 开始他不同意我的意见,但是我还是把他说服了。

He was able to leave Europe before the war began. 战争爆发前,他已设法离开了欧洲。 (11)

但如果表示某一动作没有取得成功,则可用 could not,如:

I am sorry you couldn't/weren't able to come to the meeting. 我很遗憾你没能来参加会议。

He tried very hard, but he wasn't able to / couldn't swim back to the small boat. 他 费了好大劲,但没法游回小船。

# may 的用法

1) 表示"允许"或"请求"(比 can 更客气些)。

May I come in? 我可以进来吗?

May I ask you a question? 能请教你一个问题吗?

You may leave at three today. 你今天可以三点钟回去。

You may not leave the car here. 你不能把车停在这里。

2) 表示可能性。

He may be John's father. 他可能是约翰的父亲。

They may come this evening. 今天晚上他们也许会来。

It is already 4 o'clock. You may miss the plane. 已经四点了,你可能会误班机。

注意: 在上述两种用法中, might 可以代替 may。表示"允许", 用 might 语气更为婉转。 如表示可能性,则意味着可能性不大。

May(Might) I use your pen? 我可以用你的笔吗?

He may(might) come tomorrow. 他可能(或许)明天来。

(12)

# 注意: May...?的回答。

May I come in? 我可以进来吗?

- —Yes, please.或 Certainly. 请进来。
- —Please don't.或 No, you mustn't. 请不要进来。

May I go now? 我现在可以走了吗?

- —Yes, you may/can.或 Sure. 是,你可以走。
- —No, you mustn't.或 No, you can't/may not. 不,你不能走。

上述例句中,用 No, you mustn't.语气较强烈。No, you can't. 或 No, you may not.语气则比较缓和。但作否定回答时,may not 不能缩合成 mayn't。 (13)

## must 的用法

## 1) 表示"必须"或"应该"。

You must see the doctor. 你必须去看医生。

I must get there at six o'clock. 我必须六点赶到那儿。

We must keep our classroom clean. 我们必须保持教室干净。

(14)

# 2) 表示推测。

He must be ill. 他准是病倒了。

It must be ten o'clock now. 现在一定是十点了。

注意: must be 表示猜测时语气比 may be 肯定得多,如:

He *must be* your new teacher. 他准是你们新来的老师。

He may be your new teacher. 他也许是你们新来的老师。

He *might / could be* your new teacher. 他或许是你们新来的老师。 (15)

注意: must be 表示推测时通常只用于肯定陈述句,否定句或疑问句需用 can,如:

肯定句 It must be a mistake. 这一定是一个错误。

疑问句 Can it be a mistake? 这会是一个错误吗?

<mark>否定句 It can't be a mistake. 这不会是一个错误。</mark> (16)

3) must not(mustn't)表示禁止,相当于汉语"不该"、"不准"、"不可以"、"不能",如:

You mustn't smoke here. 你不准在这儿抽烟。

They mustn't be late tomorrow. 他们明天不得迟到。

She mustn't talk like that. 她不能这样说话。

注意: 如果要表示"不必",英语中不能用 mustn't,而是应该用 needn't 或 don't have to,

如:

Must I get up early tomorrow? 明天我必须早起吗?

—Yes, you must. 是的,你一定要早起。

—No, you needn't(don't have to). 不,你不必早起。 (17)

# **第 4 讲 情态动词 (二)** (1)

我们接着讲情态动词的用法。

# must 与 have to 的区别

must 和 have to 都有"必须"的意思,它们的区别在于:

1) must 语气很强,一般指当前的需要,强调主观。如:

We must do everything carefully. 我们一切都必须仔细地做。

have to 则强调的是客观需要。如:

It's noisy outside. I have to close the door and the windows. 外面很喧闹。我只好关上门

窗。

I have to rely on my own. No one is willing to help me. 我只能靠自己了。没有人肯帮我。

- 2) must 不仅没有人称和数的变化,而且无论是表示现在、过去、将来,must 的形态不变,但 have to 表示不同时间时应有变化。
  - ① has to(第三人称单数) 表示

He has to get up early every day. 他不得不每天早起。

We have to get up early every day. 我们不得不每天早起

② had to 表示过去

They **had to** get up early **yesterday**. 他们昨天必须早起。

③ shall/will have to 表示将来(shall 用于第一人称)

You will have to get up early tomorrow. 你明天得早起。

(3)

3) must 提到主语之前构成疑问句,但 have to 的现在时和过去时必须外加助动词才能构成 疑问句,如:

You *have to* work hard. 你必须努力工作。

**Do** I have to work hard? 我必须努力工作吗?

They *had to* work hard. 他们必须努力工作。

**Did** they have to work hard? 他们必须努力工作吗?

4) mustn't 表示"不准""不应该",而 have to 的否定式则表示"不必""没必要",如:

You don't have to come early. 你不必早来。

Must I go right now? 我必须现在就走吗?

—Yes, you must. 是的,现在就得走。

—No, you don't have to (needn't). 不,没必要。

(4)

#### need 的用法

need 是一个特殊情态动词。need 除了用作情态动词外,也可以充当一个行为动词。

1) need 用作情态动词时,一般仅用于否定句和疑问句。

Need I write a letter now? 我必须马上写一封信吗?

We needn't hurry. 我们没必要着急。

**Need** I water these flowers every day? 我得每天浇这些花吗?

—Yes, you <mark>must</mark>. 是的,你得每天浇。

—No, you <mark>needn't</mark>. 不,用不着。

(5)

注意: need 用于疑问句时,肯定回答需用 must 或 have to。

2) need 用作行为动词,其用法相同于一般行为动词。

I need a pen but he needs a pencil. 我需要一支钢笔,但他需要一支铅笔。

(第三人称单数需在 need 后加"s")

Do you need a pen? 你需要一支钢笔吗?

Does he need a pen? 他需要一支钢笔吗?

注意: need 用作行为动词时,后接另一动词需加 to。need to(do sth)意为"必须"。例如:

We need to take a rest. 我们必须休息一下。

Do you need to see the doctor? 你需要看医生吗?

You don't need to tell him the news. 你不必把这消息告诉他。

He needs to come early. 他必须早来。

Does he need to know this now? 他有必要现在就知道这事吗?

He doesn't need to worry. 他不必担心。

注意: need 如用作行为动词,其过去式是 needed。

We needed to repair the TV set. 我们需修理这电视机。

We didn't need to repair the TV set. 我们不需要修理这电视机。

注意: dare(敢)与 need 的用法相同。例如:

I dare not / daren't sleep in that room alone. 我不敢独自一人在那个房间睡觉。(用作情态动词)

He doesn't dare to go, but Mary dares to go. 他不敢去,但玛丽敢去。(用作行为动词)

#### shall 可以表示"请求"

shall 表示请求多用于第一、第三人称问句中。如:

Shall we go to the park next week? 我们下星期去公园好吗?

Shall I do the washing-up? 我来洗餐具好吗?

Shall he/they wait outside? 让他/他们等在外面好吗?

(7)

(6)

# should/ought to 的用法

1) 表示"应该",用于所有人称。

He should stop smoking. 他应该戒烟。

You shouldn't leave a baby alone in the house. 你不应该把幼儿一个人留在家里。

2) should/ought to + have +过去分词,表示某件事本应做的而未做。

You should(ought to) have told him about it yesterday. 你昨天就应该告诉他这件事情。 (但没有告诉)

I should have passed the test. 我本应该测验及格。(但没有及格)

如果是否定句,表示发生了不应当发生的事。如:

You shouldn't (oughtn't to) have wasted so much time. 你不该浪费这么多时间。

He shouldn't (oughtn't to) have left so early. 他不该走得这么早。

(8)

# must, may, might, could+have+过去分词表示对可能已发生事情的猜测

I don't know where he is. He may / might have gone to the library. 我不知道他在哪里, 他也许到图书馆去了。

I mailed the letter two weeks ago. She must have received it. 我是两星期以前发的信,她一定已经收到了。

He might have applied for the job, but he did not. 他本可以申请这项工作,但他没那么做。

You could have left the book at home. 你可能把书忘在了家里。

注意:用 must 表示可能性很大, may, might could 其次。

(9)

# will 表示"请求"仅用于第二人称

Will you sit next to me? 你坐在我身边好吗?

Will you do me a favour? 请您帮个忙行吗?

在这种情况下也可以用 Would you...?; Could you...?语气更加客气。例如:

Would you pay me in cash, please? 请你付给我现金行吗?

Could you baby sit for us on Friday? 星期五你替我们照看小孩行吗?

注意: will 常用来表示句中主语的意愿或决心,可用于所有人称。

He will help me whenever I am in trouble. 无论什么时候我有困难,他都愿意帮助我。

I won't do so. 我不愿这样做。

(10)

We won't give in. 我们不会让步。

#### should like to do sth.与 would like to do sth.

should like to do sth. 仅用于陈述句,而 would like to do sth. 既可以用于陈述句又可以用于疑问句。如:

I would/should like to go there with you. 我想和你一起去那里。

Would you like to stay here? 你愿呆在这里吗?

Would you like me to stay here? 你想让我呆在这里吗?

(11)

### 与情态动词有关的一些固定用法

1) cannot help+动词 ing 不得不,忍不住,禁不住。

The students cannot help laughing. 学生们忍不住笑了起来。

I cannot help thinking so. 我不得不这样想。

注意: "cannot help (to) do"意为"不能帮助做"。例如

I'm sorry I can't help (to) clean the room. 对不起,我不能帮助打扫房间。(12)

2) had better+动词原形 最好,还是……好。

It's late. We had better hurry. 时间晚了,我们最好得赶紧。

You'd better take his advice. It's good for you. 你最好接受他的意见。这对你有好处。 ('d better 是 had better 的简略式)

注意: had better 否定形式为 had better not+动词原形。例如:

You'd better not smoke here. 你最好不要在这儿抽烟。

(13)

3) may/might as well+动词原形 还是......的好;不妨。

You may just as well tell me the truth. 你还是把事实真相告诉我的好。

I haven't got anything to do, so I may/might as well go with you. 我没有什么事情要做, 所以还是跟你一起去好。

4) would rather+动词原形 宁愿。

I would rather go to work by bike. 我宁愿骑自行车去上班。

I'd rather not do it. 我宁可不干这个。(否定形式为 would rather not+动词原形)

注意:如果说"宁愿......不愿......",就得用"would rather...than..."。

I would rather stay home than go out. 我宁愿呆在家里,不愿出去。 (14)