

VERBOS MODALES

They are used to express
ability, obligation,
possibility

Tipos

would

Características

[wʊd]

verb + **ría**

*Used as a polite
invitation or to offer*

*Describe a prediction
(hypothetical situations)*

may

Características

[meɪ]

to ask for permission
to suggest something is
possible

*To express (future)
possibility
Speculate about past
actions (May + have
+ past participle)*

must

Características

Sound: UK - [mʌst] US-[mʌst]

para expresar obligación y
prohibición

Se traduce como "deber"

El deber -must- es impuesto por
el hablante o quien escribe
You must call me early ¿o.k.?

El semimodal **have to** también
expresa obligación pero impersonal
"have to wear uniform at work"

can

Características

Is used to express ability or to say
that something is possible

*It can be cheap the weekend
(= It is sometimes cheap)*

*you can lose easily you way at night
(=people often lose you their way)*

Birds can fly-ability

*Well, I think your car
can be repaired-possibility*

should

Características

We use should and shouldn't to
give advice or to talk about
what we think is right or wrong

*Students shouldn't watch RCN or
Caracol channels*

Modos de uso

I would drink if you drive

how would understand you if
don't read correctly?

They would not win because we
are the stronger.

*Would you like some
more tea?*

*I would be happy to help
you with preparation
for your exam.*

*Would you like to go to the
movies with me tonight?*

Modos de uso

I may travel after class

may you buy the cramshaft
this summer?

I may not get up early on
friday

*I think he may win
the competition.*

*I think she may have
missed her plane.*

May I sit on this chair

Modos de uso

+ Subject-must- infinitive verb
- Subject-must not- infinitive verb
Employees must arrive at 6:45 am
You mustn't mix Coca-Cola with milk

Expresar un deber moral

You must respect your parents

Dar consejos o recomendaciones

you must read this paper

Expresar necesidad fuerte

I must buy a electric coil

Deducciones Afirmativas

*You have money you must be
happy*

Modos de uso

We use the negative can't or
cannot to show that something is
impossible:
I cannot be a slave

We can use **could** as the past tense
of can
*you could burn the engine
(=Drivers burned their cars last year)*

We use could to show that
something is possible in the future,
If we don't have dinner at Buga.
I could prepare turkey tonight.

To offer to do something
for others

I can do your homework

Modos de uso

To give advice,
a recommendation or
suggestion

*You should make an
appointment with the dentist.*

*I think you should study for
the test*

*You really should go to the
new restaurant on Bello*
Expresses an obligation that
is not as strong as Must.

*You should be at work before 9
You should pay more attention
in class.
On hearing the fire alarm, hotel
guests should leave their room
immediately.*