



SPEAKING

Unit 8:

Learn To Love Art

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.



GRAMMAR & SKILL

FOR SPEAKING

GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING Modals of Present Possibility

Use the modals might, may, or could + base verb to say that you think something is possible (but you are not certain).

*It **might be** a painting by Picasso.*

*The sculpture is strange. It **may be** a human body, but I'm not sure.*

*I love this painting, but it **could be** too large for my room.*

When you are certain that something is or is not possible, use must or can't + base verb.

*You **must recognize** this painting. It's very famous.*

*It **can't be** a painting by Picasso because it's from this century.*

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This image shows a snake painted on a hand. Artist Guido Daniele paints pictures of birds, fish, and other animals on people's hands.



A Look at the photo. Listen and read the conversation. Underline the SIX modals of possibility. How certain is the speaker in each sentence? Check (✓) the correct answer. 

Conversation	Very Certain	Possible
A: Is that a real animal?	— — — — —	— — — — —
B: ¹ No, it <u>can't be</u> .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
² But it <u>could be</u> a sculpture.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A: ³ Wait! It <u>must be</u> someone's hand. There's a thumb and fingers.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
B: ⁴ You're right. It <u>might be</u> some kind of art.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
⁵ I think it <u>may be</u> a painting of a snake on a hand.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A: ⁶ <u>Could it be</u> for a special occasion?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B: Maybe.	— — — — —	— — — — —

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SPEAKING SKILL Express Degrees of Uncertainty

When we aren't sure about something, we can say we are not certain with:

- modals of possibility: *could, might, may*
- adverbs: *perhaps, maybe, possibly*
- expressions: *It's a bit / sort of / kind of . . . , but I'm not sure/certain.*

*It **could** be a cat, **but I'm not sure**. **Possibly** it's a bird.*

*It **might** be **a sort of** fish, **but I'm not certain**.*

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D Complete a student's description of the painting below with words from the box.

bit certain maybe might must sort

This picture ¹ **must** be outside at night because there are stars in the sky. The café in the street and the houses look ² **sort** of old. ³ **Maybe** it's a city like Paris. I also think it ⁴ **might** be a painting by Vincent Van Gogh, but I'm not ⁵ **certain**. I've seen other paintings by Van Gogh, and it looks a ⁶ **bit** like them.



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GRAMMAR FOR SPEAKING Modals and Questions for Suggestions

You can use should, could, might, and let's + base verb to make suggestions.

You **should watch** this TV show. It's great.

We **could go** to a concert tonight.

You **might like** this book.

Let's watch a movie this evening.

With could, should, and might, we sometimes add the words maybe and perhaps.

Maybe we **should watch** this movie?

You can also use these question forms to make suggestions.

• *How about / What about ... + -ing verb:*

How about going to a concert?

• *Why don't we + base verb:*

Why don't we watch a movie?

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A Choose the correct words to complete the conversations. Listen and check. Then practice the conversations with a partner. 🗣️

1. A: I'm so bored! Why don't we ¹(do / doing) something interesting?

B: OK. How about ²(play / playing) a game?

A: No, let's go out somewhere.

B: We could ³(to go / go) to an art gallery downtown.

2. A: I'm reading a book about the history of my country. You should ⁴(read / reading) it!

B: Hmm, I prefer fiction. You know, books with good stories and a lot of action.

A: Maybe you'd ⁵(like / to like) this, then. It's historical, but it has a lot of action.

3. A: Jake Shimabukuro is playing live next week! ⁶(How about / Let's) buy tickets (./ ?)

B: Sorry, who's playing?

A: Jake Shimabukuro. He's a musician from Hawaii, and he plays the ukulele.

B: ⁷(Perhaps / Why don't) you should ask Anna instead (./ ?) I don't think I'd like it.

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C Read the first lines from six exchanges. Write the next line with a suggestion. Then work with a partner and take turns saying the sentences. Reply with your suggestions.

Possible answers.

1. I don't know the meaning of this word in English. **You should look up the word in a dictionary.**
2. I want to go to see a movie tonight, but it's sold out. **Maybe we could download the movie at home.**
3. I don't have any plans for the weekend. **How about going hiking this weekend?**
4. I don't think I have any food in the house. **Let's eat at a restaurant or get takeout.**
5. I'm tired of shopping. Can we take a break? **Sure. We could go to a café.**
6. I'm bored with this music. **Why don't you listen to something else?**

A: I don't know the meaning of this word in English.

B: You should look up the word in a dictionary. . . .

D PERSONALIZE Look at the different types of creative arts and entertainment in the chart. Try to think of an example for each one. Write it in the chart and write one reason you liked it.

	Your example / Your reason	Your group's suggestions
Movie		
Book (type of book or author)		
Music (album, song, or musician)		
Artist (painter, a photographer, etc.)		
Online video		
TV series		
Place (e.g., a gallery or museum)		

The picture / book I have chosen today is called . . .

The artist / author is . . .

It shows . . . / It's about . . .

I like it because . . . / I think you should read it because . . .



VOCABULARY: ART

The portrait painting was so _____ that many viewers were convinced it was a high-resolution photograph.



lifelike/ photorealistic



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The gallery featured a stunning watercolor _____ that depicted magnificent waterfalls and a vibrant sunset.



landscape



Her painting features an _____ design with swirling colors and geometric shapes that invite interpretation rather than showing recognizable objects.



abstract



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The artist drew inspiration from the artworks of past masters, creating a piece that felt _____ yet fresh.



classic/ traditional



The photographer managed to capture a _____ of a couple laughing together, revealing their genuine connection.



candid moment



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The artist's latest painting was incredibly _____, with colors that seemed to leap off the canvas.



vivid/vibrant



The _____ art piece showcased crashing waves
and a serene coastline at twilight.



seascape



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The bright colors in the painting create a _____
atmosphere, instantly lifting the spirits of anyone who sees it.



joyful and vibrant



The _____ approach of the artist made the painting feel both simple and profound at the same time.

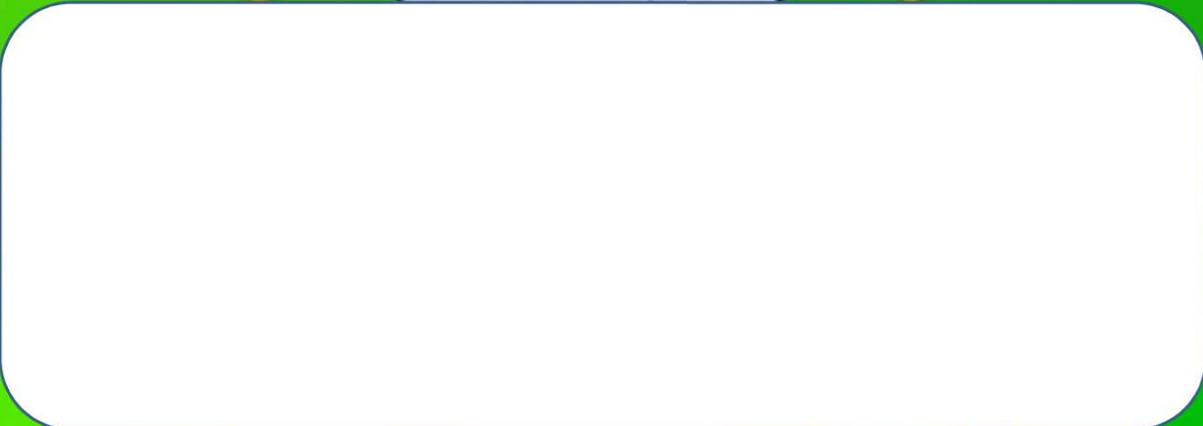
minimalist

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The serene depiction of a quiet forest in the painting evokes a _____ feeling.

peaceful and calm

The black-and-white street scene photo employs _____ to highlight the bright sunlight on pedestrians while deepening the shadows in alleyways for dramatic emphasis.



sharp contrast



Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The mixes of colors in this painting were so _____ that the flowers almost seem to bloom off the canvas.



vivid/ vibrant



The building in the center of the photo appears perfectly _____, with both sides mirroring each other.

symmetrical

Lecturer: Quynh Trang, MA.

The bold brushstrokes in the painting conveyed strong emotions, reflecting an _____ style.

expressionist



FINAL TASK

Describe a picture (painting or photograph) you like

You should say:

- What the picture is
- When you first saw it
- What it shows or depicts

And explain why you like this picture