

GRAMMAR

G1 MODAL VERBS: ABILITY, POSSIBILITY AND OBLIGATION (FUTURE)

Use *will/won't be able to* to talk about future ability.

After I pass my driving test I'll **be able to** drive a car on my own.

She's going on holiday so she **won't be able to** see you next week.

! Don't use *can* for future ability. Use *will be able to* instead.

Can I type by the end of the course? ✗

Will I **be able to** type by the end of the course? ✓

! Use *may, might or could* to describe future possibilities.

In the future cars **might** contain high pressure hydrogen tanks.

We **could** go to Greece next summer.

They **may** be able to help you with your problem.

! To describe a negative possibility in the future, we use *might not*; we don't use *could not*.

The weather forecast is good so we **might not** need our umbrellas tomorrow. ✓

The weather forecast is good so we ~~could not~~ need our umbrellas tomorrow. ✗

Use *will have to* or *will need to* to describe future obligation.

There's an admission charge so we'll **have to** take some money with us.

Use *will not have to* and *will not need to* to describe a lack of obligation in the future.

They're going to give us lunch so we **won't need to** take any food.

Use *can't* to talk about a prohibition (a negative obligation) in the future.

We should eat something now. You **can't** take food into the theatre.

G2 MODAL VERBS: ABILITY, POSSIBILITY AND OBLIGATION (PAST)

Use *could* or *was/were able to* to talk about a general ability/possibility in the past.

When I was young I **could** run for miles without getting tired.

Years ago people **were able to** drive without taking a test.

! But to talk about a single action in the past we only use *was able to*, not *could*.

There was a bus strike, but I ~~could~~ get a lift with a colleague. ✗

There was a bus strike, but I **was able to** get a lift with a colleague. ✓

Use *manage to* or *succeed in* to talk about something you did that was difficult. Use the *-ing* form of the verb after *succeed in*.

Our flight was cancelled, but we **managed to** get seats on the next one.

After several phone calls we **succeeded in** speaking to the manager.

Use *couldn't* or *wasn't/weren't able to* for a negative possibility in the past.

I lost my key and I **couldn't** find it.

When I was young I **wasn't able to** stay out late.

Use *had to* to talk about obligation in the past.

I **had to** get a visa when I went to the USA last summer.

Use *didn't have to* to talk about a lack of obligation in the past.

At my old school we **didn't have to** wear a uniform.

Use *couldn't* to talk about a negative obligation (a prohibition) in the past.

We **couldn't** use calculators in class when I was at school.

KEY LANGUAGE

KL THE LANGUAGE OF MEETINGS

SUMMARISING

OK, let me summarise our discussion.

Let me recap, please.

So, just to confirm ...

Right, what have we covered so far?

OK, do we essentially have agreement?

Right, I'll now sum up.

Everyone happy with my summary?

VOCABULARY

V1 TRANSPORT PROBLEMS

congestion charge, delayed sailing, engineering work, fogbound runway, lane closure, lost baggage, low tide, platform alteration, puncture, rough weather, signalling problems, (long) tailback, turbulence

V2 SAFETY FEATURES

airbag, anti-lock brakes, one-way street, seat belt, speed cameras, speed limit, traction control, traffic signals

V3 COLLOCATIONS

air pollution, automated system, carbon emissions, construction company, distant future, human error, inflatable slide, preliminary findings, rush hour, significant contribution, significant impact, space elevator, technological advances, traffic congestion, traffic jam, transport infrastructure, transport system

V4 WORDS CONNECTED WITH (ICONIC) TRAVEL

altitude, era, gruelling, icon, impeccable, nomads, nostalgia, opulence

G1 1 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 We'll have to go by train
- 2 We could go by train
- 3 We won't be able to go by train
- 4 We might not go by train
- 5 We won't need to go by train
- a because Uncle Jim's going to give us a lift.
- b if the bus fare is a lot cheaper.
- c as it's more relaxing than flying.
- d because my car isn't working.
- e because there's going to be a rail strike.

G1 2 Choose the correct word.

- 1 A: Did you fix the car?
B: Yes, I *could* / *managed* to repair it.
- 2 A: Did you get lots of homework last term?
B: No, we *mustn't* / *didn't have to* do much.
- 3 A: Was the Maths test very difficult?
B: Yes. We *couldn't* / *didn't able to* use calculators.
- 4 A: Did you speak to the manager?
B: Yes. We succeeded *in getting* / *to get* a refund.
- 5 A: Did you pay for the meal by credit card?
B: No, we *didn't able to* / *couldn't* use it.
- 6 A: I thought you lost your front door key.
B: Yes, but we managed *finding* / *to find* it.
- 7 A: What did you do about that broken camera?
B: I *could* / *was able to* get a replacement.
- 8 A: Were your parents strict when you were small?
B: No, we *didn't have to* / *could* do whatever we liked.

3 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first, using a form of *could*, *able to*, *have to*, *manage* or *succeed*.

- 1 It wasn't possible to repair your computer.
I _____ repair your computer.
- 2 I had the ability to sing well when I was a child.
I _____ sing well when I was a child.
- 3 It wasn't necessary for Juan to wear a suit.
Juan _____ wear a suit.
- 4 We had no problem getting tickets for the show.
We _____ get tickets for the show.
- 5 It was necessary for me to pay a €20 fine.
I _____ pay a €20 fine.
- 6 It was possible for me to borrow the money from the bank, although it was extremely hard.
I _____ in borrowing money from the bank.

KL 4 Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

summarise recap confirm covered
agreement sum summary

- 1 OK, I'd like to move on. But first, let me _____, please.
- 2 Right, I'll now _____ up.
- 3 So, just to _____, you won't support the proposal if it goes to a vote.
- 4 OK, let me _____ our discussion.
- 5 Everyone happy with my _____?
- 6 OK, do we essentially have _____, then?
- 7 Right, what have we _____ so far?

V1 5 Choose the correct word or phrase.

- 1 The flight was delayed because of a *tailback* / *fogbound runway*.
- 2 The only time I hate flying is when you are going through *turbulence* / *signalling problems*.
- 3 The *low tide* / *rough weather* made us seasick.
- 4 Can you repair a *lane closure* / *puncture*?
- 5 It took us hours to get here; there was a massive *tailback* / *turbulence* on the motorway.
- 6 There's been a *platform alteration* / *lane closure* so we'll have to cross to the other side of the station.

V2 6 Complete the table with words from V2.

something inside or part of a car	something on the road	a law

V3 7 Complete the sentences with words from V3.

- 1 The government's budget cuts have had a significant _____ on schools and hospitals.
- 2 More and more companies are replacing people with _____ telephone systems.
- 3 The _____ findings of the report are extremely worrying.
- 4 The court ruled that the plane crash was due to _____ error.
- 5 Fossil fuels will run out in the not-too-_____ future.
- 6 Due to technological _____, cars' carbon emissions are much lower than twenty years ago.

V4 8 Match words 1–6 with descriptions a–f.

- 1 impeccable
- 2 nostalgia
- 3 icon
- 4 era
- 5 opulence
- 6 gruelling
- a a feeling that a time in the past was good
- b a period of time in history, known for a particular event or reason
- c beauty, expense and luxuriousness
- d without any faults and impossible to criticise
- e very difficult and tiring
- f someone or something which is famous and admired or important