

# Modal verbs

***B.D.K.S BOMBUWALA***

***R/DHARMALOKA M.V***

***PELMADULLA, RATNAPURA***



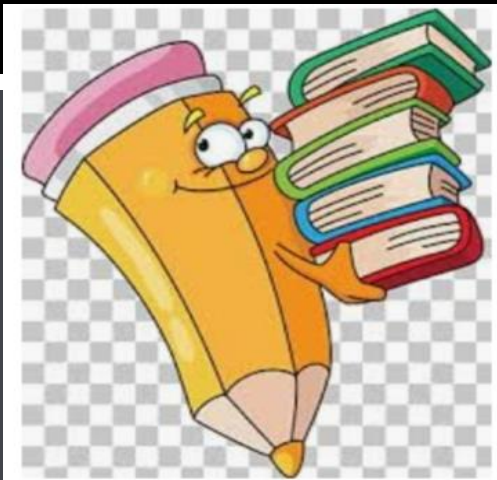
# ***MODAL VERBS***



***1.DEFINITION***

***2.STRUCTURE***

***3.HOW TO USE***





## 1. Definition

A modal verb is a type of auxiliary verb that is used to indicate modality –that is likelihood , ability , permission or possibility

# List of modal verbs

Can

May

Will

Shall

Could

Ought to

Must

would



## 2. Structure

use the **basic form or infinitive** of the main verbs **after the modal verbs**



Subject	Modal verb	Main verb	complement
I		go	to sleep
We	<b>Must</b>		
They	<b>Can</b>	drink	some water
You	<b>Should</b>		
He	<b>May</b>	eat	some food
She	<b>will</b>		
it		do	some exercise

# Modal verbs

a. Modal verbs do not add "s" or "es" to the third person singular.

He can  
swim



~~He cans  
swim~~



# Modal verbs

*b. Modal verbs don't need auxiliaries to form negative and question*

*ex:-she should stay.*

~~*She doesn't should stay*~~ → *she shouldn't stay*



*c. Modal verbs don't have infinitives or – ing form*

*Ex:- ~~canning~~*



*~~to might~~*





# Modal verbs

## 03 . How to use

### can

*use*

*example*

*ability / possibility* —→ They **can** manage their own work

*impossibility* —→ We **can't** fix it.

*asking for permission* —→ **Can** I go there ?

*request* —→ **Can** you help me?





# Modal verbs



## Could

use

Permission



Request



Possibility

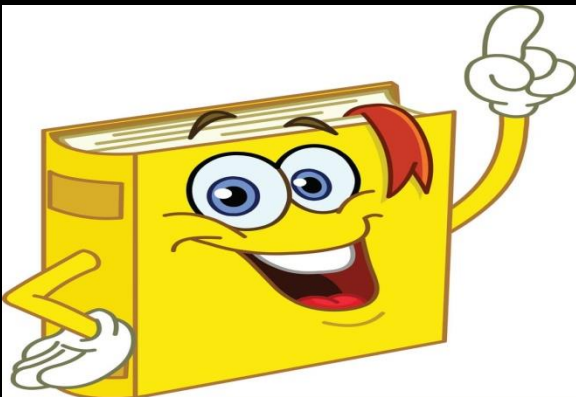


example

*Could I borrow your dictionary*

*Could you say it again more slowly?*

*I think we could have another tea*



# Modal verbs



## May

*use*

*example*

*permission*

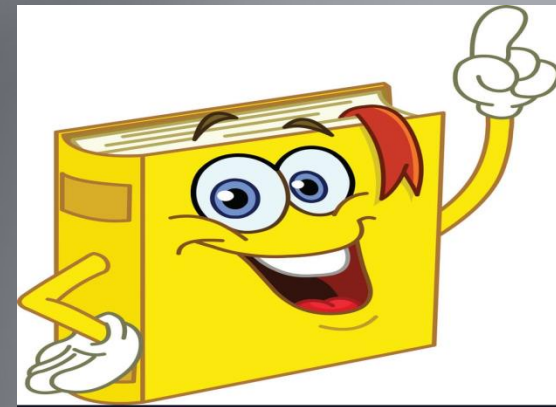


***May** I have a another cup of tea?*

*possibility*



*I **may** finish my homework within an hour*



# Modal verbs

## Might

use

example

Possibility →

We'd better phone tomorrow , they might be eating their dinner by now.



# Modal verbs

## OUGHT TO

use

example

Saying what's right or correct → she **ought to** finish the work by next week



# Modal verbs

## Shall

use

Offer



Suggestion



Permission



example

**Shall** I help you with your luggage?

**Shall** we say 2.30 then?

**Shall** I do that or will you?



# Modal verbs

## Should

use

Saying what's right or correct →

Possibility →

example

**We should solve this problem.**

**Fees should be decreased by next year**





# Modal verbs



Will



use

example

Decisions



I can't find a taxi, I will walk

Offer



I will do that for you if you like

Promise



I will come back on Monday



# Modal verbs



## Would

use

example

Permission



would you mind if I take a friend with me?

Request



would you mind waiting for a moment?

Invitation



would you like to play basketball  
this Friday ?

# Exercise 01

01. You **must** ( *coming /come /came* ) back home early.
02. My mother **can** ( *cooked /coking/cook* ) seafood hotpot .
03. I **may** ( *finish/finished /finishing* ) my homework today.
04. **Should** I ( *turning /turned / turn* ) off the TV?
- 05 . My daddy **will** ( *bought /buy /buying* ) me a robot.



# Exercise 02



*Underline the correct answer.*

*01. Alex grew up beside the sea. He ..... Swim when he was four years old.*

- a. can*
- b. might*
- c. could*

*02. I think everyone has arrived now. ....we start?*

- a. should*
- b. shall*
- c. would*

03. You should buy a lottery ticket. you .....be lucky, who knows .

a .could

b. might

c. should

04. Your grandmother will be 80 next week. You .....send her a birthday card.

a .ought to

b. should

c. might

05. Excuse me. ....you tell me the way to the post office please?

a. could

b. can

c. should

o6. When I lived in Toronto I ..... Walk to the office

- a. can
- b. might
- c. could

o7. I can't find my dictionary . ..... I borrow yours please?

- a. can
- b. may
- c. could

o8. The meeting starts at 2 p.m. tomorrow. Do you think you ..... arrive on time.

- a. will
- b. would
- c. might



# Answers 01



01. Come

02. Cook

03. Finish

04. Turn

05. Buy





# Answers 02

1. *Could*

2. *Shall*

3. *Might*

4. *Should*

5. *Can*

6. *Could*



7. *May*

8. *Will*

