

10th form

MODALS

modals

VERBS

- can
- could
- may
- might
- must
- shall
- should
- will
- would

FEATURES

- Modal verb + infinitive without **to**
- Modal verbs don't have tenses
- Modal verbs are auxiliary verbs

meaning

1. Permission
2. (im)possibility
3. Obligation
4. (un)certainty
5. Advice\suggestion
6. Probability
7. Willingness\refusal
8. Request\offer
9. (in)ability

meaning

REQUEST

- May
- Might
- Can
- Could

Can I have your book?

ADVICE

- Should
- Ought to
- Shall

■ Shall I help you?

meaning

IT'S PROBABLY

- Will (100%)
- Should/ought to (90%)

I will come, I think.

(IN)ABILITY

- Can
- Can't
- Was(n't) able to –
(in)ability on a specific occasion (=managed to)

I wasn't able to start the engine yesterday.

meaning

CERTAINTY

IT'S TRUE

IT'S SURE

■ Must

It must be Max.

POSSIBLE, THAT IT'S TRUE

- May
- Might
- Could

He might arrive at 7 o'clock.

I'm sure/certain

It isn't true

Can't/couldn't

It can't be Max.

meaning

IT ISN'T NECESSARY

- Don't have to
- Don't need to
- Needn't

You needn't buy milk, I've bought.

PERMISSION, YOU ARE ALLOWED

- Can/may

May I come in?

meaning

IT'S FORBIDDEN IT'S AGAINST THE RULES/LAW

- Mustn't
- Can't

- You can't smoke here.

OBLIGATION

- Must = it's necessary
 - Have to = strong necessity/obligation

 - Should (+ - ?)
 - Ought to (+)
- } weak obligation duty

meaning

CRITICISM

- Could
- Should
- Ought to

OFFER, SUGGESTION (IDEA)

- Can
- Would
- Shall
- Could

Can – general/theoretical possibility

Could
May
might } possibility in a specific
situation, it's possible,
it's likely/perhaps

Semi-modals

Ought to

Have to

Need

Dare

Be going to

Would rather

Would better

Suppose

Be able to