MODAL VERBS

Be to...
Предстоит
Ought to...
Следует
(долг)
Have to...
Приходится
Can
Уметь,
мочь
Should
Следует
(совет)
Be able
to...
Быть способным
сделать
Needn't
Нет
необходимости
May
Можно
Shall
Намерение
Be obliged
to...
Быть
обязанным
Must
Обязан
Dare
Осмелиться
Be allowed
to...
Разрешить,
позволить

They have the same form in all persons.

They come before the subject in questions and take "not" after them in negations.

They take an infinitive without "to" after them.

Can she sing? No, she **can't** sing but she **can** dance.

(could)

Can is used to express ability in the present or to ask permission.

Could is used to express ability in the past, polite requests or to ask permission politely.

She **can** type. (ability in the present)
Can I borrow your pen? (asking permission)

He **could** run fast when he was 17. (ability in the past)
Could I have some tea? (polite request)
Could I leave early, please? (asking permission)

Must and **have to** are used to express necessity or obligation.

"**Have to**" means that sb else decides.
"Must" means that I decide.

He **had to** leave early. **Did** she **have to** leave early, too?
She **doesn't have to** finish it now. She **has to** finish it by Monday.

It's raining. I **must** take my umbrella. (necessity)
I **must** do my homework. (obligation)
He **has to** go to hospital. (necessity)

Soldiers **have to** wear a uniform.
I **must** work till late tonight.

"Must"
"Have to/has to"
("don't/doesn't have to")

Present tense

"Had to"
("didn't have to)

Past tense

Must expresses obligation or necessity.

Mustn't expresses prohibition.

Needn't expresses no necessity.

You **must** tell the truth.

You **mustn't** drive fast.

There's enough bread. You **needn't** buy any.

(would like)

Shall we go to the cinema tonight?
Try harder or **you'll** fail your exams.
Would you carry my suitcase?
Would you **like** to come with me to the party?

Shall is used with "I" or "We" in questions, suggestions or offers.

Will is used to express predictions, warnings, offers, promises, threats, requests, suggestions, on-the-spot decisions, opinions, hopes and fears.

Would is used to express polite or formal requests.

Would like is used to express polite or formal offers and suggestions.

Ability

- Can
- Could/ was able to
- Was able to
- Couldn't/ wasn't able to

Can you swim? No, I **can't**. I **can** run fast though.

She **could/was able to** dance for hours when she was young. (repeated action)

He **was able to** win the race. (single action)

I **couldn't/wasn't able to** find my keys. (single action)
He **couldn't/wasn't able to** ski when he was young. (repeated action)

Possibility/probability

He **may** be back before noon. (it's possible)

There **might** be some cheese in the fridge. (it's possible)

He **could** still be at home. (it's possible)

They look alike. They **must** be twins. (I think they are twins)

You have been sleeping all day. You **can't** be tired.
(I don't think it's possible that you are tired)

Can he still be at work? (is it possible?)

Can he be?

Is it possible?

Permission

Can	informal
Could	
May	
Might	

Can I borrow your pen?

Could I borrow your pen?

May I use your phone?

Might I see your driving licence, please?

Giving/refusing permission

- Can
- May
- Mustn't
- Can't

informal giving permission

You **can** have one more if you want.

You **may** stay a little longer.

You **mustn't** park here.

You **can't** enter this room.

Requests, offers or suggestions.

Can	**Can** you help me tidy my room?
Could	**Could** I have a little more cake please?
Would you	**Would you like** some more lemonade?
Shall I/w	**Shall** I post this letter for you? (offer)
	Shall we buy him a present? (suggestion)
	I'll make you some coffee if you want. (friendly offer)
Will	**Will** you do me a favour? (friendly request)

Advice

Should/ought to	general advise; I advise you
Had better	advice for a specific situation; it's a good idea

You **should** walk more.
You'**d better** see your dentist.

Obligation/necessity

Mus		lings
Have		
I've go		

We **must** follow the school rules. (obligation; I'm obliged to)

I **must** see a doctor soon. (I decide it is necessary)

I **have to** do my homework every day. (others decide it is necessary)

I've **got to** leave early today.

Absence of necessity or prohibition

Mus

Ca

Nee

Do
need/h

Dic
need/h

You **mustn't** park here. (it'd forbidden)

You **can't** enter the club without a card. (you are not allowed)

You **needn't** take an umbrella. It's raining.

You **don't need/have to** do it now. You can do it later. (it isn't necessary)

He **didn't need/have to** go to work yesterday because it was Sunday. (it was not necessary)