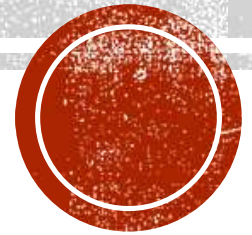


# MODALS IN LANGUAGE

Class -7



Modals are auxiliary verbs used in English to express necessity, possibility, ability, permission, or other modes of meaning. They are always used with the base form of the main verb. Here's an overview:

### Common Modal Verbs:

**1.Can:** Indicates ability or permission.

1. *I can swim.* (ability)
2. *Can I use your phone?* (permission)

**2.Could:** Expresses past ability, polite requests, or possibility.

1. *I could ride a bike when I was five.* (past ability)
2. *Could you help me with this?* (polite request)
3. *It could rain later.* (possibility)

**3.May:** Denotes permission or possibility.

1. *You may leave now.* (permission)
2. *It may snow tomorrow.* (possibility)

**4.Might:** Suggests a lower possibility than "may."

1. *I might go to the party.* (possibility)

**5.Must:** Expresses obligation or strong certainty.

1. *You must wear a helmet.* (obligation)
2. *He must be the new teacher.* (certainty)

**6.Shall:** Indicates future actions (formal) or offers/suggestions.

1. *We shall overcome.* (future)
2. *Shall we go to the park?* (suggestion)

**7.Should:** Implies advice or moral obligation.

1. *You should study more.* (advice)
2. *He should apologize.* (obligation)



**8. Will:** Expresses future actions or willingness.

1. *I will call you tomorrow.* (future)
2. *I will help you.* (willingness)

**9. Would:** Used for hypothetical situations, polite requests, or habitual past actions.

1. *I would travel the world if I had money.* (hypothetical)
2. *Would you mind opening the window?* (polite request)
3. *He would visit his grandparents every summer.* (habitual past)

**10. Need:** Can act as a modal or regular verb to express necessity.

1. *You need not worry.* (modal, necessity)
2. *You need to finish this by tomorrow.* (regular)

**11. Ought to:** Similar to "should," indicating duty or advice.

1. *You ought to help your friend.* (advice)

**12. Dare:** Occasionally used as a modal to express challenge or boldness.

1. *How dare you speak to me like that?*

### **Characteristics of Modals:**

- They do not change form according to the subject. (*He can, They can*—no "s" in the third person.)
- They are followed by the base form of the verb. (*She might go.*)
- They do not use auxiliary verbs to form questions or negatives. (*Can you help?* or *You cannot go.*)



|                 |                                                             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>CAN</b>      | Ability, doubt, astonishment, permission, Polite request    |
| <b>MAY</b>      | Permission, if not prohibition, supposition with doubt      |
| <b>MUST</b>     | Obligation, firm necessity, logical conclusion, probability |
| <b>SHALL</b>    | intention, supposition                                      |
| <b>WILL</b>     | Wish, desire, will, confidence, in the future               |
| <b>OUGHT TO</b> | Moral duty, insistent advice, strict recommendation         |
| <b>NEED</b>     | (un)necessity                                               |
| <b>BE TO</b>    | Obligation arising out of arrangement or agreement          |
| <b>HAVE TO</b>  | Unwillingness, forced circumstances                         |
| <b>WOULD</b>    | Wish (with "to like"), polite request, a habit of the past  |
| <b>SHOULD</b>   | Necessity, advice, blame, recommendation, reproach, regret  |
| <b>USED TO</b>  | Repeated action in the past                                 |



