

Modal	Meanings	Examples
Can	-Ability	I can speak 4 languages
	-Possibility	It can be get cold at night.
	-Permission	Can I use the dictionary?
	-Offer	Can I help you ?
	-Request	Can you lend me your laptop?
Can't	-Impossibility	The hardworking student can't fail.
	-Prohibition	You can't smoke in this place sir.
	-Logical Conclusion	He can't be at work. He doesn't work on Saturday.
Could	-Ability in Past	I could speak English when I was a kid.
	-Request	Could you help me ?
	-Permission	Could I go out ?.
May	-Possibility	It may rain tomorrow
	-Permission	May I ask you a question ?
Might	-Possibility	He might visit you soon.
Should -Had better -Ought to	-Advice	You' d better start a diet
Must	-Obligation	You must complete this essay by Friday.
	-Certainty	He has a Ferrari. He must be rich.
Mustn't	-Prohibition	You mustn't smoke here.
Have to	-Necessity / Obligation	We have to study hard if we want to get good grades.
Needn't Don't have to	-Lack of necessity	You needn't buy more clothes
Need	-Necessity	You need to have rest.



Exercise : Fill in the gaps with the appropriate Modal Verb

1- "You _____ break the law" the policeman told the motorist.

(**Might not – mustn't – needn't**)

2- Many parents _____ travel at the weekend if the weather is nice.

(**have / may / need**)

3- Why don't you read this story You _____ like it (**may / must / need to**)

4- Rachid can't find his mobile phone. He _____ left it in his father's car.

(**might have / would have / will have**)