

A

May and **might** are modal verbs used to express possibility (not certainty) and to ask for permission.

	Affirmative	Negative
Present	I / You / He / She / It / We / They may	I / You / He / She / It / We / They may not
Conditional	I / You / He / She / It / We / They might	I / You / He / She / It / We / They might not

May does not have a short form for the negative. **Might** can have the short form **mightn't**, which is more used in spoken language.

I may work this Saturday, but I'm not sure.

You may like it or not, but that's the way it is.

I might be late tonight, I mightn't be home until 11.

	Interrogative
Present	May I...? / May we...? (only with I and we, to ask for permission)
Conditional	Might he / she / it / they...? (to ask if something could be possible)

May I use your computer?

Might your brother know my friend Janet?

B

May and **might** are used, in particular:

- to talk about a present or future possibility, when something isn't certain. **Might** expresses more uncertainty than **may** does.

They may arrive any minute now.

She may not be at home at this time.

I might take a holiday in June.

Take an umbrella. It might rain later on.

Instead of **may** and **might**, it is also possible to use the adverbs **perhaps** or **maybe** and the future with **will** or the expression **it's likely**.

Perhaps she will not be at home... / Maybe I will go to the seaside... / Perhaps it will rain...

It's likely to snow.

It is not likely that he will come.

- to ask, grant or refuse permission in a formal way (only **may**, not **might**).

May I sit here?

May I have your attention, please?

You may go. (I'm allowing you to go – it denotes a certain authority on the part of the speaker)

Compare with: *Can I have your attention?* and *You can go now*, which are used in a more informal way.

- to wish someone something or to express a hope.

May you be happy!

May your days be merry and bright...

- followed by **as well**, to suggest that someone should do something as there's nothing better to do or because there's no reason not to do it.

I'm awake, so I might as well get up.

Since you're here, you may as well sit down.

He's not coming, so we might as well start without him.

49.1

Write sentences with **may** (possible), **may not** (unsure) or **might not** (very unsure).

1 I am unsure if my brother will arrive in time for the party.
My brother may not arrive in time for the party.

2 It is possible that I will go to the club dinner tonight.
I

3 I am very unsure if Susan will visit the Edinburgh Festival.
Susan

4 I am unsure if Nadal will win Wimbledon next year.
Nadal

5 It is possible that my father will have a retirement party.
My father

6 I am very unsure if I will pass my maths exam.
I

49.2

Rewrite the sentences with **perhaps** and **maybe**, without changing the meaning.

1 I may play football next Saturday. (perhaps)
Perhaps I will play football next Saturday.

2 He might come with us to the New Year's Dance. (maybe)

3 Chelsea might win the Champions League. (perhaps)

4 They may invite us to their engagement party. (maybe)

5 She might go to the Easter Races without you. (perhaps)

6 We may put up the Christmas decorations tonight. (maybe)

49.3

Use **may** to ask and give the following permissions.

1 Ask Mr Brown if you can borrow his pen.
Please may I borrow your pen, Mr Brown?

2 Ask Mrs Roberts if you can use her barbecue for your garden party.

3 Tell the guests that they can sit down now the speeches have finished.

4 Ask if you can open your birthday presents.

5 Ask Mr Smith if you can ask him a question.

R12.1 Complete the dialogue with the correct form of *can* / *could*. Both forms may be possible.

- John: Paul, what are you doing tomorrow afternoon?
 Paul: Nothing. Why?
 John: Because I'm going to Sarah's pool party. ⁽¹⁾ Can you come with me?
 Paul: I'd love to, but I'm afraid I ⁽²⁾ swim.
 John: What?! You ⁽³⁾ swim at your age? I ⁽⁴⁾ swim when I was three years old. Why ⁽⁵⁾ you swim?
 Paul: Well, my father ⁽⁶⁾ swim when I was little, so there was nobody to teach me.
 John: What about at primary school?
 Paul: There was no pool where I lived, so we ⁽⁷⁾ go.
 John: Well, why don't you come to the party with me tomorrow? I ⁽⁸⁾ teach you.
 Paul: You? ⁽⁹⁾ you really teach me?
 John: I think so... or at least I ⁽¹⁰⁾ try!
 Paul: OK then, John. I ⁽¹¹⁾ try, too!

R12.2 Write requests with *can* (informal) and *could* (formal), depending on the situation.

- Ask your best friend Jane to lend you her comb.
Can you lend me your comb, please, Jane?
- Ask a policeman to tell you what time it is.
.....
- Ask your mum for permission to go to Liz's party.
.....
- Ask your brother to help you arrange the party room.
.....
- Ask a teacher if it's possible for you to leave school an hour earlier today.
.....
- Ask a taxi driver to take you to the station.
.....

R12.3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *can* / *could* and of the verbs in brackets.

ride help come go play speak

- Danny couldn't ride a bicycle until he was 16.
- Dave football with us next Sunday?
- The girls to the garden party last weekend – they were ill.
- Mike Spanish very well. He lived in Madrid when he was young.
- you me with my French homework, please, Mrs Jones?
- I'm sorry, but I to the dance with you tonight.

R12.4 Complete the phone conversation with the correct form of *can* / *could*.

- Sandy: Hi Dick! It's Sandy. ⁽¹⁾ Can you talk now?
 Dick: Yes, I ⁽²⁾
 Sandy: It's about the Christmas party. Last night, when I asked Andy if he ⁽³⁾ help me put up the decorations, he said he ⁽⁴⁾ come at the weekend, but that he ⁽⁵⁾ come on Monday. That's great, because if we finished putting them up on Monday, you ⁽⁶⁾ come over and help me move the furniture on Tuesday.
 Dick: I'm afraid I ⁽⁷⁾ come on Tuesday because it's the only time my parents ⁽⁸⁾ visit me before Christmas. But if you still needed me, I ⁽⁹⁾ help all day on Wednesday.

R12.5 Complete the sentences with the correct form of *(not) be allowed to* or *(not) be able to*.

- In most countries in the world, you are allowed to vote when you are 18.
- In the near future, we produce energy from ocean waves.
- In the UK, you marry at 16 only with parental consent.
- In the next few decades, we combine all sources of information into a gigantic global system.
- In Italy, you buy cigarettes under the age of 16.
- Soon we walk to the North Pole because the Arctic ice cap is already melting.

R12.6 Rewrite the sentences with *may* or *might* without changing the meaning.

- Maybe I'll go to the beach party tomorrow.
I may go to the beach party tomorrow.
- Perhaps I'll go to the Lord Mayor's Parade on Saturday.
.....
- Maybe my dad will give me the money I need.
.....
- Perhaps they won't be able to find the way to the Festival.
.....
- Maybe she'll marry Paul after all.
.....
- Perhaps we'll finish the firework display before it rains.
.....

R12.7 Write requests or orders using *may*.

- Ask if you can leave the room for a minute.
May I leave the room for a minute, please?
- Ask if you can have another piece of Christmas cake.
.....
- Tell them they can go home when they've decorated the room.
.....
- Tell them they are not allowed to open their presents yet.
.....
- Ask if you can clean the party room now.
.....
- Ask if you can sit next to Suzanne at dinner.
.....

- A** *Must* is the modal verb used to express obligation and necessity.

Affirmative

I / You / He / She / It / We / They must

Negative

I / You / He / She / It / We / They must not

I / You / He / She / It / We / They mustn't

The fridge is empty. We must buy some food.
You mustn't tell anyone. It's a secret.

Interrogative

Must I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?

Questions with **must** can be used in an emphatic way to express annoyance or reluctance to do something.

Must they keep talking?

Must I really get up at five?

- B** *Must* is used, in particular, to:

- express an obligation imposed by the speaker (**You must...**) or felt personally as a duty (**I must...**).
You must tidy your room, it's a real mess.
I know I must tell the truth.

- give advice, strongly recommend something.
You must read this book. It's such a gripping story.
You must visit the Louvre when you're in Paris.

- say that something is forbidden or to strongly advise someone against doing something.
You mustn't copy during the test.
You mustn't behave like that!

- make a logical assumption or deduction based on:
– present facts: **must + base form**

It must be quite late. (I can see it's getting dark)
They must be American. (I can tell by their accent)

- on past fact: **must + have + past participle**

Your grandparents must have been very rich. (they left you a lot of money)
It must have been a very hard exam. (not many students passed it)



- C** The use of a different modal changes the level of certainty. Compare what someone says whilst looking for something they've lost:

It must be here! (I'm sure it's here)

It should be here. (It's likely to be here)

It may / might be here. (Perhaps it's here)

It can't be here! (I'm sure it's not here)

EXERCISES

- 50.1** Write the rules by completing them with *You must (+)* or *You must not (-)*.

- drive on the left in Britain. (+) *You must drive on the left in Britain.*
- cross the road at the zebra crossing (+)
- walk on the grass (-)
- smoke inside the restaurant (-)
- wear a seat belt when you drive (+)
- go out without your identity card (-)

- 50.2** Complete the sentences that express personal obligations. Use *must* or *must not*.

- We *must* buy some milk on the way home.
- You forget to buy a birthday card for Dad.
- He be late for the concert tonight.
- They win this match to stay in League 1.
- I ask Paul where he keeps the keys.
- She know about the party we're preparing. It's going to be a surprise party.

- 50.3** React to your parents' statements expressing reluctance. Use *Must...?*

- 'You're going to Grandad's with us on Sunday.' *Must I go to Grandad's with you on Sunday?*
- 'Sue's coming in the car with us.'
- 'We're all watching *The Lion King* tonight.'
- 'Jimmy's playing football with us.'
- 'Aunt Jane's taking you to the seaside.'
- 'Jack's finishing his maths before he can play.'

- 50.4** Write recommendations or deductions using *must* or *mustn't*.

- Advise someone to listen to the new Arctic Monkeys CD.
You must listen to the new Arctic Monkeys CD.
- Make a deduction about a woman: she's a security guard – she's watching everyone carefully.
She must be a security guard because she's watching everyone carefully.
- Advise someone to go to the next Chelsea match with you.
You
- Make a deduction about the time: you're hungry (you haven't eaten since breakfast)
.....
- Advise someone not to park their car here because it's private.
.....
- Make a deduction about a man: he looks very much like the boy who's with him
.....

- 50.5** Complete the deductions with the past tense.

- He has stopped competing at 25. He *must have been* very young when he won gold in the Olympics.
- They're still together. She his partner for at least ten years.
- Climbing that peak very hard. You look exhausted.
- They a lot of money in the bank to buy that mansion.
- They're already here. They very early this morning.
- Your ring looks very expensive. It at least £800.

A

Have to and **have got to** can be used instead of the modal **must** to express obligation or necessity in the present tense. For other tenses, see Unit 52.

We have to do something. / We have got to do something. / We must do something.

Affirmative

I / You / We / They have (got) to
He / She / It has (got) to

Negative

I / You / We / They don't have to
He / She / It doesn't have to

The short affirmative form is only used with **have got**: **I've got to**, **You've got to**, **He's got to**, etc. In colloquial American, it is also possible to use the contraction: **I gotta**, **You gotta**, **He gotta**, etc.
I've got to go now. → I gotta go now.

Interrogative (have to)

Do I / you / we / they have to...?
Does he / she / it have to...?

Interrogative (have got to)

Have I / you / we / they got to...?
Has he / she / it got to...?

The interrogative form for the first person singular (**Do I have to...?**) can have the same meaning as **must** (see p.144).

Do I have to learn all this by heart?

B

Have (got) to in the affirmative form is usually used to express:

- duties or rules.

I have to get up at 6.30 every morning.

- external obligations (e.g. from laws, regulations and other people's orders)

You have to pay in advance.

Compare: *I have to read three novels before the end of the term.*

(it's an assignment that the teacher has given me)

I must read this novel. (it's me who has decided)

C

To express orders or instructions, the structure **be + infinitive** can be used.

Each candidate is to show a document of identity.

The contract is to be signed on each page.

Be + infinitive can also be used to talk about plans. This construction is often found in newspapers.

The president is to arrive in Nairobi tomorrow.

D

NB: The negative form **don't / doesn't have to** does **not** have the same meaning as **mustn't**.

- **Mustn't** indicates that something is forbidden.

You mustn't put any sharp objects in your hand luggage.

- **Don't have to** indicates the absence of necessity. It has the same meaning as **don't need to** (see p.148).

You don't have to tell me if you don't want to.

I have to be at school by 8.30, but I live nearby, so I don't have to leave home till 8.15.

Compare: *You don't have to run.* (there's still time)

You mustn't run. (it's forbidden, e.g. in a walking race)

EXERCISES

Have to / Have got to; Be to; Mustn't / Don't have to

51.1 Write sentences with the correct form of **have to**, affirmative (+) or negative (-).

1 I / + / take / the dog for a walk every night.

I have to take the dog for a walk every night.

2 She / + / feed / her pet rabbit every morning.

3 We / - / go to school tomorrow because it's a holiday.

4 He / - / be there until four o'clock.

5 You / + / tidy your room before you go out.

6 They / - / finish their homework now; they can do it later.

51.2 Write questions with **have got to** (A) or **have to** (B).

1 (A) I / clean the car?

Have I got to clean the car?

2 (A) she / come to our party?

3 (B) he / go to the police station?

4 (A) we / study the American penal system?

5 (B) you / visit them tonight?

6 (A) they / stay with us all week?

51.3 Tick (✓) the correct sentences.

1 a ☒ Notice: Deep water. You must not swim here.

b ☐ Notice: Deep water. You don't have to swim here.

2 a ☐ Mother: You mustn't get up early tomorrow. There's no school.

b ☐ Mother: You don't have to get up early tomorrow. There's no school.

3 a ☐ Teacher: You mustn't run in the corridors. It's dangerous.

b ☐ Teacher: You don't have to run in the corridors. It's dangerous.

4 a ☐ Policeman: You mustn't drive so fast. It's a 50km-per-hour zone.

b ☐ Policeman: You don't have to drive so fast. It's a 50km-per-hour zone.

5 a ☐ Classmate: You mustn't give in your essay until Friday. There's lots of time.

b ☐ Classmate: You don't have to give in your essay until Friday. There's lots of time.

6 a ☐ Judge: I'm banning you from driving for 12 months. You mustn't drink and drive again.

b ☐ Judge: I'm banning you from driving for 12 months. You don't have to drink and drive again.

51.4 Decide whether the following obligations are yours (**personal**) or are imposed by others (**external**).

1 That new Stephen King novel looks great. I must buy it.

personal

2 I must buy some new trainers – these ones are worn out.

3 I have to complete my project by Christmas or the teacher will be angry.

4 I must try that new dark chocolate Magnum. I bet it tastes lovely!

5 I mustn't get my white trousers dirty or I'll look a mess.

6 I've got to get there on time or the team trainer will be mad at me.

7 We can't go out. No one is to leave the room during the test.

8 You're to go to the police station immediately.

- A** Besides **must** and **have to**, it is also possible to use the verb **need** to express necessity in the present. In the affirmative form **need** acts as an ordinary verb, not a modal.
You need to have your own car. The firm doesn't provide one.
He needs to be there right on time. (note the **-s** on the third person singular)

- B** The verb **need** has two negative forms. One is like that of an ordinary verb and the other is like that of modal.

I don't need to / You don't need to / He doesn't need to...
I needn't / You needn't / He needn't...

Either form can be used. NB: If used like a modal, **need** is followed by the base form of the verb. In the negative form, **need** indicates the absence of necessity, like **don't have to** (see p.146).
You don't need to buy all that food. There's going to be only eight of us at the party.
She needn't leave so early. It only takes an hour to get there.

- C** Even in questions, **need** can be used as both an ordinary verb and a modal.

Do I need to / Do you need to / Does he need to...?
Need I / Need you / Need he...? (this form is not as common)

Do I need to reserve a seat? / Need I reserve a seat?

- D** The verb **need** can also be followed by the **-ing** form when it is in the passive (something has to be done).
My bike needs to be repaired. → *My bike needs repairing.*
Your room needs to be cleaned. → *Your room needs cleaning.*

- E** To indicate obligation and necessity in tenses other than the present, we usually use the verb **have to**.

Past simple

Affirmative: I had to

Negative: I didn't have to

Interrogative: Did I have to...?

I had to work hard to pass my exam.

He didn't have to wait long. His friends were there in five minutes.

Did you have to wear a uniform when you were in primary school?

Future with will

Affirmative: I will / I'll have to Negative: I will not / I won't have to Interrogative: Will I have to...?

We'll have to make our own costumes for the play.

You won't have to work on Saturdays.

'Will I have to book in advance?' 'No, you don't need to.'

- F** **Be obliged to / be compelled to / be forced to** can be used instead of **must** and **have to**. They make the obligation stronger and they can be used in all tenses.

They were obliged / forced to leave their country because of political persecution.
(stronger than: They had to leave...)

If he's proved to be guilty, he will be compelled to resign from office.

- 52.1** Complete the sentences with the correct form of **need to (+)** or **not need to (-)**.

- 1 They (-) don't need to bring their dictionaries to school today.
- 2 On Wednesday morning, I (+) go to the bank.
- 3 She doesn't look well. I think she (+) see the doctor.
- 4 We've got enough players, so he (-) come.
- 5 My father says I (+) drive more carefully.
- 6 You (-) say anything to the police until your lawyer arrives.

- 52.2** Write the alternative negative form (**needn't** / **not need to**) of the underlined expressions.

- 1 I needn't go to school tomorrow. don't need to go
- 2 We needn't visit our grandparents on Sunday.
- 3 He needn't come with us.
- 4 They don't need to finish it now.
- 5 You don't need to pay for me as well.
- 6 She needn't worry about being late.

- 52.3** Complete the questions with **Do / Does... need to...? (A)** or **Need...? (B)**.

- 1 (A) Do I need to get to the court early tomorrow?
- 2 (A) you speak to your lawyer again?
- 3 (B) they make so much noise when they come in?
- 4 (B) she tell everybody about the robbery?
- 5 (A) he ask the witnesses any more questions?
- 6 (B) the judge give her such a long prison sentence?

- 52.4** Complete the second sentence using the correct tense of **have to**.

- 1 Present: I need to study hard for my exams.
Past simple: Last year, I had to study hard for my exams.
- 2 Present: She needs to train twice a week to stay in the team.
Past simple: Last term,
- 3 Present: We need to prepare everything for the party ourselves.
Future: We
- 4 Present: Does she need to bring her guitar to the party?
Future:
- 5 Present: Do you have to go to school on Saturdays?
Past simple: When you were a boy, ?

- 52.5** Rearrange the words and write the sentences.

- 1 telephone – I – Jim – evening – need – this – to
I need to telephone Jim this evening.
- 2 think – now – I – pay – you – need – for – don't – it – to
.....
- 3 day – go – He – to – didn't – every – there – have
.....
- 4 schools – regulations – will – to – All – be – enforce – new – the – obliged
.....
- 5 kitchen – tidying – needs – The
.....
- 6 needn't – about – worry – You – me
.....

R13.1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of *must* (+), *mustn't* (-) and *not have to* (-).

- Now everyone (+) must wear a seat belt when they drive, but when I was young, you (-) didn't have to wear one.
- You (+) wear a swimming cap in the pool, and you (-) get into the water until the instructor comes.
- The children (+) go to school from Monday to Friday, but they (-) go on Saturday and Sunday.
- Paul, you (-) smoke inside the restaurant! And you really (+) give up smoking altogether!
- Cyclists (+) wear a helmet at all times, and they (-) ride without holding the handlebars with at least one hand.
- When you're in court, you (+) tell the truth, and you (-) speak unless you are asked a question.

R13.2 Rewrite the sentences with the correct form of *have got to*.

- Must I go to my piano lesson tonight?
Have I got to go to my piano lesson tonight?
- Must they come to the station with us?
- Must you leave your books all over the floor?
- Must she work so late at night?
- Must we finish the project by Friday?
- Must he keep playing that computer game?

R13.3 Find the mistakes and underline them. Then write the correct sentences.

- I don't have go there tomorrow.
I don't have to go there tomorrow.
- You mustn't to drive so fast on this road.
- They didn't must come here until later.
- Do I must tidy my bedroom now?
- Does he has to work on Friday?
- They haven't to buy them now.

R13.4 Write five true sentences about you using the verbs in brackets.

- (must) I must finish my history essay by Friday.
- (need to)
- (not have to)
- (will have to)
- (mustn't)

R13.5 Two colleagues are talking in the office. Complete the dialogue with *must*, *mustn't*, *have* or *need*. NB: At times, both *have* and *need* are possible.

- Larry: Do you ⁽¹⁾ have to go to London again on Monday?
Sally: No, I ⁽²⁾ to relax a bit, so I'm taking Monday off. But the boss wants me to go to Paris on Friday, so I ⁽³⁾ prepare for that.
Larry: I've done all the photocopies. Do you need any more help?
Sally: No, it's OK, thanks. I've got enough information. All I ⁽⁴⁾ to do now is to go to the bank and get some euros. And I ⁽⁵⁾ forget to take my passport. Oh, and I also ⁽⁶⁾ to sign some documents before I go.
Larry: Well, I ⁽⁷⁾ go now. Is there anything more you ⁽⁸⁾ to tell me about the Paris project?
Sally: I don't think so, Larry. You don't ⁽⁹⁾ to worry about it any more.
Larry: That's good news! I'll go, then, because I ⁽¹⁰⁾ to make a few phone calls.

R13.6 Match the sentences to the appropriate comments.

- | | | | | | |
|--|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 <u>b</u> | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 1 You mustn't run in the corridor. | a No, I'm afraid I have to go home now. | | | | |
| 2 Your hair is very long. | b Sorry, I'm late for a class. | | | | |
| 3 You don't need to finish that now. | c Yes, it will make her very happy. | | | | |
| 4 Must I go to the theatre with Aunt Mary? | d Yes, it needs cutting. | | | | |
| 5 Can I talk to you for a minute, please? | e It must be The Skeletons. I can't stand them either. | | | | |
| 6 This music is terrible! | f It's OK - it'll only take a few minutes. | | | | |

R13.7 Tick (✓) the correct sentences and correct the ones that are wrong.

- ☐ When I was young, I have to wear a school uniform.
When I was young, I had to wear a school uniform.
- ☐ We needn't get the train last night. Mum gave us a lift.
- ☐ You mustn't run, Jane. The train's already left!
- ☐ What a beautiful ring! It must have been very expensive.
- ☐ You don't have to use your mobile phone during the flight.
- ☐ We won't need to cook tonight. We're invited to Joe's for dinner.



Shall and **should** are modal verbs that are usually used to ask and give instructions, advice and suggestions.

A **Shall** is used in questions with the first person singular and plural.

Shall I / Shall we + base form of verb

It is used to:

- ask what needs doing, ask for instructions.

'Shall I take a bus?' 'Yes, a number 32.'

'What shall I buy?' 'Get some cheese.'

- offer to do something that we think may be useful / helpful.

'Are you cold? Shall I get you a pullover?' 'No, thanks. I'm all right.'

'Shall I close the door?' 'Yes, please do.'

- make suggestions.

'Where shall we go tonight?' 'Let's go to the pub.'

'What time shall we meet?' 'Let's meet at three o'clock.'

'Shall we meet at the bus station?' 'All right.'

In the previous examples, it is also possible to use **should**. This use is more common in spoken American English.

Should I take a bus? / What should I buy? / Should I close the door? / Where should we go tonight?

B **Should** (all forms).

Affirmative

I / You / He / She / It / We / They / Should

Negative

I / You / He / She / It / We / They should not (shouldn't)

Interrogative

Should I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?

Negative questions

Shouldn't I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?

It is used to:

- give or ask for advice.

You should arrive earlier tomorrow if you want to get a better seat.

You shouldn't drink alcohol. It's bad for your health.

'Should I go for it?' 'Yes, I think you should.'

- say what you believe is the right thing to do.

We should recycle glass and paper and we shouldn't waste water or electricity.

- make an assumption, i.e. say that something is probable based on the evidence (see p.144C).

He left a long time ago. He should be there by now.

Look at the map. It shouldn't be far.

In formal British English, **should** can also be used in **that**-clauses after the following verbs: **advise**, **insist**, **propose**, **recommend**, **suggest** and a few others.

They insisted (that) I should have dinner with them.

I suggest (that) we should cook something light.

53.1 Change the sentences into questions to ask for instructions or to offer to do something. Use *Shall I / we...*?

1 I'll take my umbrella when I go to school.

Shall I take my umbrella when I go to school?

2 I'll catch the bus if they clear the snow.

3 We'll come if it doesn't rain.

4 I'll buy some winter clothes tomorrow.

5 We'll go to the beach if the weather changes.

6 I'll bring you some boots for when it snows.

53.2 Read the answers and write questions with *shall*. Use *I* or *we* and the words in the box.

Where When What Which How Who

1 (I) *What shall I bring to the party?*

You can bring some juice and biscuits to the party.

2 (we)

You can get there at three o'clock.

3 (I)

Wear the woollen coat, not the raincoat.

4 (we)

You can take the 29 bus to get to my house.

5 (I)

You can ask Peter to go to the dance with you.

6 (we)

You can meet me in front of the cinema.

53.3 Rearrange the words and write questions with *should*.

1 I - party - wear - to - What - the - should - ?

What should I wear to the party?

2 we - problem - When - about - the - tell - should - him - ?

3 us - we - our - bring - clothes - with - sports - Should - ?

4 when - What - say - I - I - him - meet - should - ?

5 the - lend - ask - Should - her - I - money - to - me - ?

6 you - we - for - wait - if - Where - rains - should - it - ?

53.4 Write recommendations and assumptions with *should* / *shouldn't*.

1 Mick / smoke (advice) *You shouldn't smoke, Mick.*

2 Linda / get to work late (advice)

3 Jimmy / take more exercise (advice)

4 Don left for London at six o'clock. It's nine o'clock now. The journey takes two hours. (supposition) Don *should be in London by now.*

5 There was ice on the road this morning and it was difficult to drive. The ice has melted now. (supposition) Driving

6 There was no snow on the slopes. It's snowed for three days. You think you can go skiing now. (supposition) The slopes

A

As an alternative to **should** to give advice and make recommendations, the verb form **had better** can be used. It is the same for all persons.

Affirmative: Subject + **had ('d) better** + base form of verb

You had better start now.

We'd better hurry or we'll be late.

Negative: Subject + **had ('d) better not** + base form of verb

You had better not say a word.

You'd better not worry. I'll take care of that.

B

Another verb form that can be used instead of **should** is the modal **ought to**. It has only this form and the negative form **ought not to** (short form: **oughtn't to**). The usage and meanings are identical to **should**.

You ought to eat more fruit and vegetables.

(advice)

We ought to save some money for our next trip.

(suggestion)

They've been working all day. They ought to be tired.

(assumption)

You oughtn't to get too close to the animals' cages.

It might be dangerous.

(recommendation)



C

The expression **be due** is used when something is expected to take place at a set time, for example arrival times of trains or other means of transport.

The train from Newcastle is due (to arrive) in half an hour.

The flight from Berlin is due (to land) at 6.55.

'When is her baby due?'

'I think it's due in a couple of weeks.'



D

The expression **be bound to** is used when something is considered inevitable.

He's bound to get a pay rise. → He's sure / certain to get a pay rise.

You're bound to know the answer. I've told you a hundred times!

He's such a clever boy. He's bound to have a great career.

EXERCISES

Had better; Ought to; Be due; Be bound to

54.1 Rewrite recommendations using **had better** (HB+) and **ought to** (OT+).

1 You should tidy your room.

(OT+) *You ought to tidy your room.*

2 He should work harder.

(HB+)

3 She should be more careful.

(HB+)

4 They should finish the work quickly or the boss will tell them off.

(OT+)

5 You should ask someone to help you or you'll never be able to hand in your project in time.

(HB+)

6 We should go and see this film tomorrow.

(OT+)

54.2 Use the words to write recommendations in the negative form using **had better not** (HB-) and **ought not to** (OT-).

1 you / eat so many chips

(OT-) *You ought not to eat so many chips.*

2 he / go out in this thunderstorm

(OT-)

3 you / use your car so much in town

(HB-)

4 she / stay out so late at night

(OT-)

5 we / speak to them until we decide

(HB-)

54.3 Rewrite the sentences by replacing **should** with the correct form of **be bound to** or **be due**.

1 He's such a good runner he should win the race.

He's such a good runner, he's bound to win the race.

2 Lucy's very intelligent; she should pass all her exams.

3 Jeremy's flight should land at four o'clock.

4 The train should be here in five minutes.

5 Manchester United is such a strong team that it should win the cup again this year.

54.4 Complete the sentences with the verbs in the box.

oughtn't due had better had better bound

1 You *had better* take your umbrella – it's going to rain.

2 Peter's bus isn't for another ten minutes.

3 Eric's to win the race – he's much faster than the others.

4 They to worry about problems before they happen.

5 You not go home until the snow stops falling.

- A** Modal verbs (**can / could, may / might, must, shall / should / ought to, will / would**) have the following characteristics:
- They are followed by the base form of another verb to indicate obligation, possibility, ability, permission, etc.
 - -s is not added to the third person singular.
 - They do not have infinitives or participles.
 - They do not have proper past tenses (although **could, would, should** and **might** can sometimes be used as past forms of **can, will, shall** and **may**).
 - Questions and negatives are formed without the auxiliary **do**.

- B** **Can** is the modal verb used to express possibility and ability.
Can is the present form and **could** is the past and the conditional.

	Affirmative	Negative
Present	I / You / He / She / It / We / They can	I / You / He / She / It / We / They can't
Past & Conditional	I / You / He / She / It / We / They could	I / You / He / She / It / We / They couldn't

I can teach you, if you like.

She could read when she was only four.

This could be the beginning of a new story.

The full negative form is **cannot**, but this is used a lot less than the short form **can't**.
We cannot / can't go out tonight.

The full form in the past is **could not**.
They could not / couldn't tell me anything.

C

	Interrogative
Present	Can I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?
Past & Conditional	Could I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?
	Negative questions
Present	Can't I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?
Past & Conditional	Couldn't I / you / he / she / it / we / they...?

Can we start writing now?

Could you wait a couple of minutes, please?

Can't you pay a bit more attention?

Couldn't you come with me?



D

	Short answers
Present:	Yes, I can. / No, I can't.
Past & Conditional:	Yes, I could. / No, I couldn't.

'Can you ride a horse?' 'Yes, I can. / No, I can't.'

E

	Wh- questions
Present:	What can I...? Where can you...? How can he...?
Past & Conditional:	What could I...? Where could you...? How could he...?

What can I do for you?
Where could we find a map?
How could you be so careless?

- 47.1** Rearrange the words and write the sentences.

1 well – piano – She – very – can – the – play
She can play the piano very well.

2 party – I – tomorrow – come – your – can – to – birthday

3 Friday – the – She – finish – until – can't – work

4 could – hungry – I – eat – I'm – so – horse – a – !

5 busy – Jane's – couldn't – go – he – Mike – wedding – was – to – because

6 you – to – us – fireworks – come – Can – tonight – the – with – ?

7 to – could – the – When – prepare – they – help – decorations – ?

- 47.2** Complete the answers with the appropriate form of **can / could**.

- 1 Can you come to my birthday party on Saturday? Sorry, *I can't*. I'm working next weekend.
2 Can they bring some food with them tomorrow? Of course
3 Could Anne speak English when she was five? No,
4 Could he organise a party as good as Peter's? No, I don't think!
5 Couldn't you borrow Jim's suit for the wedding? Yes, I think I'll ask him.
6 Can we go to the town festival next Sunday? No, We're going to Sarah's wedding, don't you remember?

- 47.3** Find the mistakes and underline them. Then write the correct sentences.

- 1 I can't to come to your Christmas party next week. *I can't come*
2 Do you can ride a bicycle?
3 They say she cans run very fast.
4 Could they to go to the air show tomorrow?
5 We can't visit the folk dance festival yesterday.
6 He didn't can get to the school ball last Saturday.

- 47.4** Match the two parts of the sentences or of the questions.

- 1 *a* 2 3 4 5 6
- a because I feel ill.
b I don't understand it.
c It's very heavy.
d because he can't dance.
e because they didn't have any flour.
f because the bus was late.

- 47.5** Rewrite the sentences using the past tense.

- 1 Tim runs fast, but he can't beat Jo.
2 I can't go to the garden party because it's raining.
3 We are asking him if he can come to the dance.
4 I don't play the violin, but I can play the guitar.
5 He says he can sing very well.
6 You can't play loud music there after midnight.

Tim ran fast, but he couldn't beat Jo.

The modal **can / could** is used to:

- A** • say that it is possible to do something.
Yes, I'm free tomorrow, so I can come to your house.
It's warm and sunny. We can eat outside in the garden.

- B** • make a request.
Can I / Can we / Can you...? informal
Could I / Could we / Could you...? more formal
Can you bring me your diary, please?
Could we have two coffees, please?
'Could you please call for a taxi?' 'Certainly, sir.'
Can I have a sandwich, Mum?



- C** • offer help.
'Can I help you?' 'Yes, please. I'd like...'
'Can I do something for you?' 'No, thanks, I'm all right.'

- D** • ask permission and allow / not allow.
'Can I invite some friends home, Mum?' 'Yes, of course you can. / Sorry, you can't. Not today.'

- E** • express ability, skill.
I can speak two languages – English and Spanish.
I couldn't use this software, but I've learnt now.

- F** • express disbelief, say that something is impossible based on the evidence.
I can't believe that!
She couldn't be 40. She looked much younger.

- G** Verbs that can substitute **can** not only in the missing tenses (infinitive, participles, etc.) but also in the present simple and past simple are:

- **be able to / be unable to**

I'm sorry not to be able to come.
Will you be able to get there by nine?

- **manage to**

'Have you managed to talk to Mr Ross?' 'No, I haven't managed to talk to him yet. He's always so busy.'

- **be allowed to / be permitted to**

You won't be permitted to come back so late.
She wasn't allowed to bring her dog.

48.1 Write sentences using *can* and *could* to express possibility.

- Say that you are able to go to Paul's house tomorrow.
I can go to Paul's house tomorrow.
- Say that Steve isn't able to arrange the party room next Saturday.
- Say that Susan was unable to finish preparing the party food last night.
- Explain that you are unable to go dancing tomorrow because of your bad leg.
- Say that Dan was unable to put up the Christmas tree last night because he was very tired.

48.2 Write formal (F) or informal (I) requests using the verbs in brackets.

- You want a glass of orange juice. Ask your mum. (I: have)
Can I have a glass of orange juice, Mum?
- You want a plate of chips. Ask the waiter. (F: have)
- You want to use your classmate's red pen. (I: borrow)
- You need 20 euros. Your mum is out. Ask your neighbour. (F: lend)
- You want a pizza Napoli delivered to your flat. (F: bring)

48.3 Write what they weren't able to do in the past (*couldn't*), but can do now (*can*).

- I / ride a bike / be four *I couldn't ride a bike when I was four, but I can now.*
- Mike / speak English / start school
- Jane / cook / go to university
- They / play tennis / start lessons
- I / swim / go to the seaside

48.4 Rewrite the sentences by replacing *can / could* with the verb in brackets.

- I'm sorry I can't come to your party. I'm busy that day. (be able to)
I'm sorry I'm not able / I won't be able to come to your party. I'm busy that day.
- He couldn't go to the school fête last week. He had a cold. (be able to)
- I couldn't see the exhibition. I was out of town. (manage to)
- I couldn't park my car in front of the restaurant. It's private. (be allowed to)
- I'm sorry, sir, but you can't smoke inside this building. (be permitted to)

48.5 Write offers of help using *Can I...?*

- Offer to do the shopping for your mother. *Mum, can I do the shopping for you?*
- Offer to carry your friend's bag.
- Offer to make your dad a cup of coffee.
- Offer to take your friend's books back to the library.