



# MODAL VERBS

## Exercise 1:

Complete the sentences using the modal verbs listed in the boxes below. Some gaps may have more than one correct answer.

1. Lucy's engagement ring is enormous! It \_\_\_\_\_ have cost a fortune.

CAN    COULD    MUST    MIGHT    SHOULD

2. If you want to get a better idea about Bristol, you \_\_\_\_\_ walk uptown and explore the district called Clifton.

CAN    COULD    MUST    MIGHT    SHOULD

3. Please make sure to water my plants while I am gone on holiday. If they don't get enough water, they \_\_\_\_\_ die.

CAN    COULD    MUST    MIGHT    SHOULD

4. You \_\_\_\_\_ take your umbrella along with you today. The weather forecast said there will be some heavy showers today.

CAN    COULD    MUST    MIGHT    SHOULD

5. I'm not really sure where Helen is. She \_\_\_\_\_ be in the living room, or perhaps she's in the garden.

CAN    COULD    MUST    MIGHT    SHOULD

6. You \_\_\_\_\_ be kidding! It can't be true.

CAN    COULD    MUST    MIGHT    SHOULD

## Exercise 2:

Choose the correct substitute for each modal verb.

1. He needs to go to the hospital.      He \_\_\_\_\_ go to the hospital.

HAS TO    IS ALLOWED TO    IS ABLE TO

2. I can use a word processor.      I \_\_\_\_\_ use a word processor.

HAVE TO    AM SUPPOSED TO    AM ABLE TO





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3. The children may watch TV tonight. The children \_\_\_\_\_ watch TV.

- HAVE TO     ARE ALLOWED TO     ARE SUPPOSED TO

4. You mustn't drive without a license. You \_\_\_\_\_ drive without a license

- DO NOT HAVE TO     ARE NOT ALLOWED TO     ARE NOT ABLE TO

### Exercise 3:

Fill in the blank with the appropriate modal verbs (can, could / may, might / have to .... ) in order to express the following ideas. (obligation, possibility ...)

1. obligation - \_\_\_\_\_ (I/stop) smoking doctor?

possibility - No, but if you don't stop you \_\_\_\_\_ die.

2. advice It's going to be very cold tonight so you \_\_\_\_\_ turn on the central heating.

3. obligation That job is only open to university graduates. You \_\_\_\_\_ have at least a bachelor's degree to apply.

4. no necessity I can stay in bed on Saturday because I \_\_\_\_\_ work.

5. permission - \_\_\_\_\_ I borrow your car tomorrow ?

possibility - No because I \_\_\_\_\_ need it if I go shopping.

6. possibility It \_\_\_\_\_ rain, but I doubt it.

### Exercise 4:

Fill in the blank with the appropriate modal based on the situational hints in italics.

1. I'm in terrible shape. I ..... exercise more!  
(I feel that more exercise is an absolute necessity for me)

2. .... you copy this and learn it by heart for tomorrow morning.  
(Do you have the capacity to do this)

3. Jane ..... be sent to Australia for her job but nothing's decided yet.  
(the trip is possible but at the moment nothing is certain)

