



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)

