



MODALS

AUXILIARY VERB

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MODALS

A MODAL VERB, OR A MODAL AUXILIARY VERB, IS “ANY OF THE GROUP OF ENGLISH AUXILIARY VERBS, INCLUDING CAN, COULD, MAY, MIGHT, SHALL, SHOULD, WILL, WOULD, AND MUST, THAT ARE USED WITH THE BASE FORM OF ANOTHER VERB TO EXPRESS DISTINCTIONS OF MOOD.” MODAL VERBS ARE A TYPE OF AUXILIARY VERB (HELPING VERB). LIKE OTHER AUXILIARY VERBS, MODAL VERBS WORK TOGETHER WITH A MAIN VERB TO GIVE A DIFFERENT MEANING TO A SENTENCE/CLAUSE THAN IF THE MAIN VERB WAS USED BY ITSELF.

MODAL VERBS ARE USED TO INDICATE THE MOOD OF A VERB. IN GRAMMAR, MOOD (FROM A VARIANT OF THE WORD MODE) IS A CATEGORY THAT SHOWS IF A VERB IS EXPRESSING FACT (KNOWN AS INDICATIVE MOOD), COMMAND (IMPERATIVE MOOD), QUESTION (INTERROGATIVE MOOD), WISH (OPTATIVE MOOD), OR CONDITIONALITY (SUBJUNCTIVE MOOD).

MUST

- **Must** is used for all persons in the present and future tenses.
- The interrogative form is must I?
- **Must** has no infinitive and no past tense.
- **Must** is used to express obligation.
- It is used to express compulsion, i.e. ordering someone to do something because it is necessary or important to do so.
- It is used for saying that something is probably true because nothing else seems possible.
- The negative form of **must** (**must not**) is used for prohibition.
- It is used to give emphatic advice.

EXAMPLE:

- You **must** obey your parents.
- You **must** answer all questions.
- There **must** be some mistakes.
- You **must not** come here.
- She **must** consult a doctor at once.

HAVE TO / HAD TO

- Have to express obligation and necessity in the present.
Had to does so in the past.
- Have to and had to are used for giving advice
- Have to and had to are used to draw a logical conclusion.
- Have to is used for supposition or to describe something based on possible ideas or situations.
- Have to is used to indicate that something is very important or necessary.

EXAMPLE:

- She has to look after her mother.
- First you have to mix the water and the sugar.
- There has to be some reason for his mischief.
- You will have to work very hard to stand first.
- We have to be more careful in future.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MUST / SHOULD

- The word should is used for actions/responsibilities/duties that what one thinks is best for the concerned subject.
- The word must is used for actions/responsibilities/duties that are considered compulsory/necessary.
- “Should” is the past tense of “shall.” “Should” is used to denote recommendations, advice, or to talk about what is generally right or wrong within the permissible limits of society.
- “Must” is used to talk about an obligation or a necessity. It is used when people are compelled to do something.

SHOULD

- **Should** is the past tense of **shall**. In the indirect form of speech 'shall' changes into should.
- Should is used to express obligation, duty, etc.
- Should is used to give advice or suggestion.
- Should is used to express purpose.
- Should is used to state imaginary results.
- Should is used to express polite requests.

EXAMPLE:

- You should pay all your taxes.
- You should consult a doctor.
- Mohan walked fast so that he should catch the train.
- He should get angry if he had come to know about it.
- I should be thankful if you give me some money.

NEED

- **Need** is used to express obligation or necessity.
- The negative need not expresses the absence of obligation.
- Need not + perfect infinitive is used to express an unnecessary action that was performed.

EXAMPLE:

- They need not send the letter now.
- Need I attend the class today?
- You needn't have gone to see the doctor. He was on leave today.

OUGHT

- Ought to is used for expressing what is the right or sensible thing to do, or the right way to behave.
- Ought to is used when we believe strongly or expect that something will happen.
- Ought to see/hear/meet, etc. is used for emphasizing how good, impressive, or unusual something or someone is
- Ought to have is used when we realize that we did not do the right thing in the past.

EXAMPLE:

- You ought to get up earlier.
- The Indian team ought to win.
- You ought to see their new house.
- You ought to have listened to my advice.