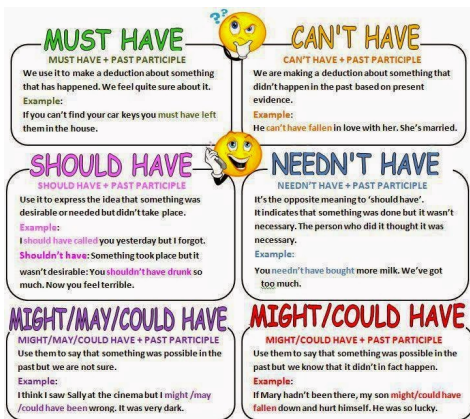


Modal verbs and its types

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Modal verbs or modal auxiliary verbs are a type of verbs that indicates modality, i.e., likelihood, permission, ability and obligation. Some of the common modal verbs are can, could, may, might and must. Let us understand them briefly.

Remember as a kid you asked your parents before going out to play, “Can I go out to play?” Now, at your work place when you want to leave early, you have to ask for permission, “Could I go home early today?”



MUST HAVE
MUST HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
We use it to make a deduction about something that has happened. We feel quite sure about it.
Example:
If you can't find your car keys you must have left them in the house.

CAN'T HAVE
CAN'T HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
We are making a deduction about something that didn't happen in the past based on present evidence.
Example:
He can't have fallen in love with her. She's married.

SHOULD HAVE
SHOULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
Use it to express the idea that something was desirable or needed but didn't take place.
Example:
I should have called you yesterday but I forgot.
Shouldn't have: Something took place but it wasn't desirable: You shouldn't have drunk so much. Now you feel terrible.

NEEDN'T HAVE
NEEDN'T HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
It's the opposite meaning to 'should have'. It indicates that something was done but it wasn't necessary. The person who did it thought it was necessary.
Example:
You needn't have bought more milk. We've got too much.

MIGHT/MAY/COULD HAVE
MIGHT/MAY/COULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
Use them to say that something was possible in the past but we are not sure.
Example:
I think I saw Sally at the cinema but I might /may /could have been wrong. It was very dark.

MIGHT/COULD HAVE
MIGHT/COULD HAVE + PAST PARTICIPLE
Use them to say that something was possible in the past but we know that it didn't in fact happen.
Example:
If Mary hadn't been there, my son might/could have fallen down and hurt himself. He was so lucky.

They are a kind of special verbs which behave very irregularly in English. Modals cannot be represented alone as a main verb since they are always used in the helping form. Let's learn them one by one and take another step towards English fluency.

Types Of Modals

1. Will/ Would

Will is used to show a wish, prediction, request, demand, order, assumption, promise, etc.

Examples:

Will you please keep quiet?
Aruna says, it will rain today.
Kumar said he will not drink alcohol henceforth.

Whereas, would is used to show a wish or to request in a polite way and sometimes to express habits.

Examples:

Would you please give me 100 bucks?
She would remain very calm during her examination days.

2. Can

Can is used to show permission, possibility, and ability.

Examples:

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-By Chander Madan

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