

Verb Phrases with Modal Verbs

Exercise 1 — Complete the sentences with can, must or should

1. You __ eat breakfast every day.
2. He __ ride a bike very well.
3. They __ drink more water.
4. We __ hurry. The bus is coming.
5. I __ help my parents at home.
6. She __ go to bed early tonight.
7. Students __ be quiet in class

Exercise 2 — Find the Verb Phrase - underline the verb phrase

1. He can cook dinner for his family.
2. She must wear a uniform at school.
3. They should go home early today.
4. I can play football after class.
5. You must finish homework before TV.
6. We can take a bus to school.
7. She should drink water every morning.

Conversation – **Student B sheet**

1. **A:** ...
2. **B:** It was great! On Saturday I ate at a café in the morning. How about you?
3. **A:** ...
4. **B:** Later, I went to the market with a friend.
5. **A:** ...
6. **B:** Sunday I studied English for a few hours.
7. **A:** ...
8. **B:** Yes, but later I went for a walk because the weather got better.
9. **A:** ...
10. **B:** Yes, I did! And then I relaxed at home before going to bed.

Tick the verb phrases you hear A say:

<input type="checkbox"/> eat outside	<input type="checkbox"/> played badminton
<input type="checkbox"/> cleaned my room	<input type="checkbox"/> stayed at home
<input type="checkbox"/> met my cousin	<input type="checkbox"/> visited my aunt
<input type="checkbox"/> go shopping	<input type="checkbox"/> studied English

Exercise #1: Complete each sentence with a modal verb a, b or c?

1. __ you speak any foreign languages?	a. may	b. can	c. have
2. Liz __ get tired of her job. It is so boring.	a. has to	b. must	c. should
3. Where's Nick? He __ be in his office.	a. might	b. mustn't	c. is to
4. Take an umbrella. It __ rain later.	a. has to	b. need	c. might
5. Jack __ go to hospital yesterday.	a. must	b. had to	c. need
6. You look tired. You __ go to bed.	a. should	b. ought	c. are to
7. You __ do it. I've already done it.	a. must not	b. need not	c. ought not
8. __ it be true?	a. must	b. may	c. can
9. __ we stay or leave?	a. will	b. would	c. shall
10. Jane was so tired. She __ have worked days and nights.	a. should	b. must	c. need

Exercise #2: Complete each sentence with a modal verb, here are my suggestions:

	can't	can	couldn't	didn't
should	should	should	shouldn't	shouldn't

1. It was very dark last night. I _____ see the man on the road.
2. He's not very strong. He _____ try to lift the box.
3. She's singing in the shower. I _____ hear her.
4. We must be home by ten o'clock. Perhaps we _____ go now.
5. Cigarettes are unhealthy. People _____ smoke them.
6. Your face is dirty. You _____ wash it.
7. That book doesn't belong to him. He _____ take it.
8. Emily's on a diet. She _____ eat that cake.
9. When I was young I _____ cook at all.
10. The speed limit is 50 km/hr in the city. You _____ slow down.

Exercise #3: Read the sentences and choose the correct modal verb from the list below to complete each blank.

Modal Verbs: can, could, will, would, should, may, might, must

On Saturday morning, Laura and Tom 1 _____ go for a hike in the mountains. Tom 2 _____ cook dinner tonight; he enjoys trying new recipes. Laura, you 3 _____ bring your camera; we might see some beautiful scenery. They 4 _____ start early if they want to reach the summit before sunset. Laura, you 5 _____ check the weather forecast before we leave.

Exercise #4: Degree of Certainty. Read the sentences and choose the correct modal verb from the list below to complete each blank

Modal Verbs: can, could, will, would, should, may, might, must

1. It's 10:30, and Sarah isn't here yet. She _____ have forgotten about the meeting.
2. The test is challenging, but if you study hard, you _____ pass with flying colours.
3. I heard a noise outside. It _____ be the neighbours playing music loudly again.
4. Mark is a very able person; he _____ finish the report by himself.
5. My parents _____ let me go to the concert if I finish my homework early.

Exercise #5: Read the conversation and choose the helping verbs from the list below to complete each blank.

can can haven't may must have should should

1. A: Hi, I heard you're planning a trip to Paris.
B: Yes, I'm excited! I _____ book the flights yet, but I'm thinking of going next month.
2. A: I can't find my keys anywhere.
B: You _____ left them in the car. I remember you had them when we parked.
3. A: I have an important job interview tomorrow.
B: You _____ wear something professional and be well-prepared. Confidence is key.
4. A: I'm not sure if I _____ make it to the party on time.
B: Don't worry. If you're running late, you _____ always call and let them know.
5. A: The weather forecast says it _____ rain later.