

MODAL VERBS – BASIC

1. Fill in the gaps with *may* or *can* on the verbs from the list.

leave, buy, come, enjoy, cut, go, visit, cook

1. I ...*may not go*... to school tomorrow. I don't feel very well.
2. Fatherthe grass today. It looks as if it is going to rain.
3. Dan isn't at home. Heat the football field.
4. I a new dress. I haven't really got enough money.
5. We the Smiths. There is a film on TV we want watch.
6. Let's take Molly to the funfair. She it!
7. Mother something special tonight. It's my birthday.
8. I work early today. I have almost finished everything I have to do.
9. Sally home late tonight. She's got a lot of work at the office.

2. Complete each sentence with two to five words including the word in bold.

1. Perhaps Nick is at the office.
may Nick ...*may be at the*... office.
2. I don't think Mary is very happy at the moment.
can't Mary..... very happy at the moment.
3. I'm bored. Let's watch tv.
shall I'm bored.tv?
4. I'm sure those are Paula's sunglasses.
must Those Paula's sunglasses.
5. I advise you to stop eating fatty foods.
ought You fatty foods.
6. Perhaps the children are in the playground.
may The children Playground.
7. I'm sure they come from Spain. They have got a Spanish accent.
must They
They've got a Spanish accent.

3. Fill in the gaps with *don't/doesn't have to*, *didn't have to* or *won't have to*.

1. Tomorrow is Saturday, so I... *won't have to*... go to school.
2. I've already finished my project so Ido it in the holidays.
3. We bought a takeaway pizza last night, so we cook dinner.
4. Tom and Mary have got a washing machine so they go to the laundrette.
5. Steve passed his driving test so he take it again.

6. Sally is very rich so she work.
7. They bought tickets in advance so they wait in the queue.
8. Jane's mother wakes her up so she use alarm clock.
9. I have already read the book so I read it again.
10. Sam never makes a mess so he tidy his room very often .

4. Fill in the gaps with *mustn't* or *needn't* / *don't have to*.

1. A: You ...*mustn't* ... do that again! It was very naughty!
B: I'm sorry!
2. A: Shall I but some petrol in the car?
B: No, you I did it this morning.
3. A: Yoube late tonight.
B: I won't. I will be home early
4. A: Shall I give you lift?
B: No you I `ll go by taxi
5. A: You forget to pay the bills today
B: I've already done it
6. A: You lose the money I gave you.
B: I'll put it in a safe place
7. A: You buy a gift for Daisy`s birthday
B: Alright. I'll just send a card
- 8.A: Shall we take a picnic with us for Saturday?
B: No, we We`re going to eat at a restaurant

5. Complete each sentence with two to five words including the word in bold.

1. It isn't necessary to wait for us.
have You... *don't have to wait* ... for us.
2. Taking pictures inside the museum is forbidden.
must You inside the museum.
3. It is necessary for you to leave so early?
have Do so early?
4. It isn't necessary to go by taxi. I'll give you a lift.
needn't You by taxi. I'll give you a lift.
5. Keeping pets in the building is forbidden.
must You in the building.

6. It isn't necessary to water the flowers.
haven't You the flowers

6. Fill in the gaps with an appropriate modal verb. Sometimes more than one answer is correct.

1. A: I ... *could*...roller-skate when I was young.
B: So could I. Those were the days.
2. A: Dad's car broke down yesterday?
B: he repair it?
3. A: Those man look alike. They be brothers.
B: Yes, they are
4. A: You leave yours toys on the floor
B: Why?
A: You'll cause an accident
5. A: Shall I do Grandma's shopping for her?
B: No you She wants to do it herself.
6. A: You tidy your bedroom today.
B: Oh, do I?
7. A: Where is Colin?
B: I'm not sure. He be in his office.
8. A: What we do at the weekend?
B: We go to swimming.
9. A: My brother ride a motorbike.
B: Really? he drive a car, too?
10. A: I'm really tired.
B: You go to bed early tonight
11. A: I help you, sir?
B: No thank you. I'm just looking around.

7. Choose the correct answer.

1. I ...C... remember go to the bank. I haven't got any money.
A. don't have to **B.** needn't **C.** must
2. I take your order, please?
A. Mustn't **B.** Must **C.** May
3. you ride a bicycle?
A. Can **B.** Should **C.** May
4. Steve read and write until he was seven years old.
A. must **B.** could **C.** couldn't
5. you make diner tonight?
A. Shall **B.** Will **C.** May
6. Susan you come outside and play with me?

- A. will B. shall C. may
7. You go to bed late during the week.
A. couldn't B. shall C. shouldn't
8. You to visit your grandparents more often.
A. ought to B. were able you C. shall
9. we go to the cinema at the weekend?
A. Mustn't B. May C. Shall
10. 'Where we meet?' 'At my place.'
A. must B. shall C. ought to
11. Peter go to the dentist before his toothache gets worse.
A. ought to B. shall C. can
12. You do the ironing. I'll do it instead.
A. needn't B. must C. mustn't
13. You cross the road without looking first. It's dangerous
A. needn't B. mustn't C. must

8. Fill in the gaps with *could* / *couldn't* or *was able to*.

I was walking in the woods one evening when something terrible happened. I slipped and fell into a stream. It was quite dark and I 1) ...*couldn't*... see very well. I called for help but no one was 2)..... hear me. I had hurt my ankle and I 3)..... walk very easily but I tired. After some time I was 4) start going up the hill again.

It was late and I was cold and wet. I wanted to go home but it was too far to walk. It took me a long time but eventually I reached the edge of woods. There was a house there, so 5)..... call my father. He came in the car and took me home. The following day the doctor came and examined my ankle. I had to stay in bed for two days. It was a week before I was 6) walk properly again.

9. Choose the correct answer.

1. I ...A... understand what he was saying because he was speaking Spanish.
A. could B. can't C. can
2. Steven walk when he was one year.
A. can't B. can C. could
3. The door was locked so I do inside.
A. will be able to B. wasn't able to C. can
4. We go out for meal since we sold the car.
A. has been able to B. haven't been able to C. can
5. When I'm older I live by myself.
A. can't B. have been able to C. will be able to
6. I run faster than my brother now.
A. will be able to B. could C. can
7. Jenny type since she went to college .
A. has been able to B. can C. can't
8. Ihear very well. Please speak louder.
A. am able to B. can C. can't
9. We arrived at the shop just as it was closing so we do our shopping.

- A. are able to B. can C. couldn't
 10. My brother drive yet. He's too young.
 A. can B. can't C. couldn't

10. Correct the mistakes.

1. Might we visit Mary and tom tonight?
2. I'm not sure where Ed is. He mustn't be at work.
3. Will I help you wash'the dishes.
4. You mustn't get up early tomorrow. It`s a holiday.
5. Martha had a bad cold and she could do all her work at the office
6. You shouldn't go to the dentist if you have toothache
7. Shall I borrow your pen, please?
8. I might climb trees when I was young

11. Rewrite the sentences using modal verbs, as in the example.

1. **It isn't necessary for her to** wear a suit to the office.
She needn't / doesn't have to wear a suit to the office.
2. **You aren't allowed to** take those books out of the library.

3. **It is possible that Mark will** be at home this evening.

4. **Would you like me to** make some sandwiches for you?

5. **I advise you to** leave early.

6. **Emily managed to** find job after looking for six months.

7. **I'm sure Paul isn't** from Canada.

8. **We are obligated to** take exams every six months.

9. **I'm sure the children aren't** happy with your decision.

10. **Perhaps we will** go to Florida on holiday
