

MODAL VERBS



Modal verbs are a type of verb that tell you about the certainty or possibility of an event.

Modal verbs are:

can might
could shall
will should
would must
may ought to

Examples of possibility

- ✓ We **could** stay tomorrow.
- ✓ He **should** be able to help you.
- ✓ Ashanti **could** dance really well.
- ✓ It **may** rain.
- ✓ I **might** help you after school.
- ✓ Alberto **can** play the guitar.

Examples of certainty

- ✓ We **will** do maths later.
- ✓ I **shall** definitely be going on holiday abroad next year.
- ✓ He said he **would** do it tomorrow.



In negative sentences, the **modal verb** comes before **not**.

Least likely

You **could** stay.
You **ought to** stay.
You **should** stay.
You **must** stay!
You **will** stay!

Most likely

- He **might not** stay.
- She **cannot** ride her bike.
- He **should not** eat any more cake.
- He **could not** work out where he had gone wrong.