



Grammar

All modal verbs – Exercise

Use one of the following verbs to express the same idea as in the original sentence: can, could, may, might, should, must, have to, will, shall, would.

For this exercise, avoid 'ought to' and 'need to'.

If two or more verbs are possible, choose one of them.

Examples:

Say that you are not able to speak Portuguese.	... I can't speak Portuguese. ...
Say that I'm not allowed to enter the office.	... You can't / may not enter the office. ...
Politely request that I fill in this form.	... Could / Would you fill in this form, please? ...
Deduce that it is TRUE that she has seen the memo.	... She must have seen the memo. ...
Deduce that it is IMPOSSIBLE that she has seen the memo.	... She can't / couldn't have seen the memo. ...
Ask for Permission to interrupt me.	... May / Could / (can) I interrupt you? ...
Say that it's possible that he has left.	... She might / could / may have left. ...
Ask for my advice whether to have a haircut.	... Should I have a haircut? ...
Say that it's necessary that we do NOT argue.	... We mustn't argue. ...
Say that it's NOT necessary that we agree.	... We don't have to agree. ...
Say that it was an obligation for us to sign a contract.	... We had to sign a contract. ...
Volunteer to call a taxi.	... I'll call / shall a taxi. ...
Offer to pick me up at the airport.	... Shall I pick you up at the airport? ...
Suggest having a break.	... Shall we have a break? ... We could have a break. ...
Politely state that you prefer to leave.	... I would prefer to leave. ...
Say that it's possible that she's resigned.	... She might / may / could have resigned. ...



1. Say that you'll be able to post it tomorrow.
2. Say that we're not allowed to read the report.
3. Give me permission to use your phone.
4. Deduce that it's not possible that Sam is in London.
5. Say that it's generally possible for rivers to dry up.
6. Say that they were able to cancel the order.
7. Suggest that we bring forward the meeting.
8. Say that she wasn't allowed to leave the classroom.
9. Politely request that I clarify this point.
10. Deduce that it's not possible that he was here last night.
11. Ask for permission to borrow my pen.
12. Ask for permission to make a suggestion.
13. Say that it's possible that it will be sunny tomorrow.
14. Say that it's possible that he has missed his flight.
15. Say that it's possible that she does not like chocolate.
16. Say that it's possible that he didn't get the message.
17. Say that it's not a good idea for them to complain.
18. Say that you regret entering into that contract.
19. Advise me not to listen to gossip.
20. Say that you expect the letter to arrive tomorrow.
21. Ask for my opinion whether to sell your house.
22. Criticise Jane for not asking us first.
23. Say that you think it's necessary that I call my mum.
24. Say that you assume that they have made a compromise.
25. Say that you assume that he is working hard.



26. Say that it's necessary that we do not forget to book a table.
27. Deduce from the way Pat looks that she's exhausted.
28. Say that it was an obligation for her to inform the police.
29. Ask if it's an obligation for her to open an account.
30. Say that it's an obligation for everyone to wait in line.
31. Say that it's not an obligation for him to fill in a timesheet.
32. Say that it was not necessary for them to rush.
33. Promise to visit me very soon.
34. Predict a rise in inflation.
35. Volunteer to find a nice restaurant.
36. Make an informal request that I give you a hand.
37. Promise not to tell that joke again.
38. Ask for a suggestion where to sit.
39. Offer to drive me to the station.
40. Express the firm's contractual duty to inform the union.
41. Suggest skipping the next point on the agenda.
42. Politely say that you want to speak to the manager.
43. Politely say that you don't recommend this solution.
44. Say that in her teens, she used to sleep 10 hours a day.
45. Say that in his youth, he used to go fishing once a week.