

Modals of Permission Exercise

1. You're a child and you formally ask a teacher for permission to leave the room.

2. You ask your mum for permission to go to a party tonight. You are polite but don't use 'may'.

3. You ask for permission not to come early tomorrow. You're feeling informal.

4. You tell your colleague that hypothetically he has permission to come in later tomorrow, but it would really be a problem.

5. You tell your friend that there is a rule against wearing jewellery at school. Don't use 'mustn't'.

6. Say that he (your employee) has hypothetical permission to go home early if he finished all the work first.

7. Tell your colleague that it's not allowed to bring a friend.

8. Tell your friend that everyone has permission to wear any kind of socks to school.

9. Say that no one has permission to smoke on the tube. Don't use 'can't' or 'be not allowed to'.

10. Ask for permission to finish your essay next week. Use a polite negative question.

11. Ask if John had hypothetical permission in the past to do the report.

12. Ask for permission to not attend the meeting. You're feeling polite.

13. Tell someone that last week you had permission to finish work early.

14. Ask your friend if you have permission to borrow some money. Use an informal negative question.

15. Ask for permission not to call John. Use informal language.

16. Explain that when you were little, you didn't have permission to watch TV in the morning.

17. Tell someone that she has permission to take a bottle of water into the exam. You're a teacher speaking to a student formally.

18. Explain that yesterday the children had permission to wear their own clothes to school.

19. Ask a friend for permission to use her phone. Be informal.

20. Tell your child that hypothetically, she has permission to have another ice cream but you think it will make her sick.

21. You ask your mum for permission to borrow her car. You're feeling informal.

22. Explain to your student that she doesn't have permission to bring a phone into class. Be quite formal.

23. Say that John has hypothetical permission to do the report – the client would be fine with that.

24. Explain that when you were little, you had permission to play games in the street.

25. Ask for permission to go to the party. Be polite and use a negative question.

26. Say to your colleague that he has hypothetical permission to leave early but Julie will have to do his work.

27. Tell someone that she has permission to leave when she's finished the exercise.

28. You ask your boss for permission to leave early.

29. Explain that when you were little you had permission to have ice cream at the weekend.

30. Tell your friend that he has permission to have another biscuit.

31. Say that the rule is that everyone has permission to park here on Sundays.

32. Explain that last week, you didn't have permission to finish work early.

33. Explain that yesterday, the children didn't have permission to wear their own clothes to school.

34. Tell your child that he doesn't have permission to eat his ice cream until he has finished his vegetables. Don't use 'may not' or 'can't'.
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35. Ask if you had hypothetical permission in the past to go to the meeting instead of Lucy.
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36. Tell your friend that he doesn't have permission to use your car.
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37. Ask for permission to not work on this project. Be polite.
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38. Tell someone they have hypothetical permission to go to the meeting instead – you're sure it would be okay.
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39. Tell your daughter that she has permission to stay out until midnight. Don't use 'can'.
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40. Explain that when you were little, you didn't have permission to eat chocolate before bed.
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41. Ask for permission to leave early today. Use an informal negative question.
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42. Explain that the rule is that you have permission to miss one class. Don't use 'can'.
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Answers to Modals of Permission Exercise

1. May I leave the room?
2. Could I go to the party tonight?
3. Can I not come early tomorrow?
4. You could come in later tomorrow, but it would really be a problem.
5. You can't wear jewellery at school.
6. He could go home early if he finished all the work first.
7. You can't bring a friend.
8. You can wear any kind of socks to school.
9. You mustn't smoke on the tube.
10. Couldn't I finish my essay next week?
11. Could John have done the report?
12. Could I not attend the meeting?
13. Last week, I was allowed to finish work early.
14. Can't I borrow some money?
15. Can I not call John?
16. When I was little, I couldn't watch TV in the morning.
17. You may take a bottle of water into the exam.
18. Yesterday, the children were allowed to wear their own clothes to school.
19. Can I use your phone?
20. You could have another ice cream, but I think it will make you sick.
21. Can I borrow your car?
22. You may not bring a phone into class.
23. John could do the report – the client would be fine with that.
24. When I was little, I could play games in the street.
25. Couldn't I go to the party?
26. You could leave early, but then Julie will have to do your work.
27. You can leave when you've finished the exercise.
28. Could I leave early?
29. When I was little, I could have ice cream at the weekend.
30. You can have another biscuit.
31. You can park here on Sundays.
32. Last week, I couldn't finish work early.
33. Yesterday, the children couldn't wear their own clothes to school.
34. You aren't allowed to eat your ice cream until you've finished your vegetables.
35. Could I have gone to the meeting instead of Lucy?
36. You can't use my car.
37. Could I not work on this project?
38. You could go to the meeting instead – I'm sure it would be okay.
39. You are allowed to stay out until midnight.
40. When I was little, I couldn't eat chocolate before bed.
41. Can't I leave early today?
42. You are allowed to miss one class.