

## MODAL VERBS

VERB	TENSE	MEANING	EXAMPLE	ALTERNATIVE OPTION
<b>CAN</b>	Present	Ability Permission	<i>I can swim very well. Can I go to the toilet?</i>	<b>Be able to</b> (present, past and future) I am able to swim I wasn't able to do it <b>I will be able to go</b> to the party
<b>COULD</b>	Past  Present (formal)	Ability Permission  Request	<i>I could talk at the age of 3. I could go out last night.  Could you pass the salt, please?</i>	
<b>MUST</b>	Present	(+) Obligation (-) Prohibition	<i>You must go to school. You mustn't smoke at school.</i>	<b>Have to (Obligation)</b> I have to study I had to study I'll have to study  <b>Don't have to (Absence of obligation)</b> I don't have to go (No tengo que ir) <b>different from</b> I mustn't go (No debo ir)
<b>SHOULD</b>	Present	Advice	<i>You should see a doctor. You shouldn't drive so fast.</i>	
<b>MIGHT</b>	Present	Probability	<i>Cars might fly in the future.</i>	
<b>MAY</b>	Present	Possibility Permission	<i>It may rain. May I come in?</i>	