

Modals

Meaning	Present + - ?	Past	Conditional	Substitute
ability = Fähigkeit				to be able to
permission = Erlaubnis				to be allowed to
possibility = Möglichkeit		was/were allowed to		
obligation = Verpflichtung, necessity = Notwendigkeit		had to	would have to	to have to
prohibition = Verbot	-	was/were not allowed to	wouldn't be allowed to	not to be allowed to
obligation = Verpflichtung, advice = Ratschlag	- - -	-		-

Forms (modals): no –s in 3rd person sg present; no infinitive; no participles; base form with *can/ may/ must/ should/ needn't*; to-infinitive with *be allowed to/ ought to/ be able to/ have to*

Exercises

1 Put in *I must* or *I had to*.

- 1 go to the bank yesterday to get some money.
- 2 It's late. go now.
- 3 I don't usually work on Saturdays but last Saturdaywork.
- 4 get up early tomorrow. I've got a lot to do.
- 1 I went to London by train last week. The train was full andstand all the way.

2 Complete the sentences. Use *mustn't* or *needn't* (*don't have to*) + one of these verbs:

clean forget hurry lose wait write

- 1 The windows aren't very dirty. Youthem.
- 2 We have a lot of time. We.....
- 3 Keep these documents in a safe place. Youthem.
- 4 I'm not ready yet but youfor me. You can go now and I'll come later.
- 5 Weto turn off the lights before we leave.
- 6 Ithe letter now. I can do it tomorrow.

3 Translate.

1 Ich musste rennen, um pünktlich zu sein.

2 Ich vergass, Tony gestern anzurufen. Ich muss ihn später anrufen.

3 Du brauchst es ihm nicht zu sagen.

4 Er kann das nicht tun.

5 Wir sollten nicht härter arbeiten.

6 Musste er nicht kommen?

7 Wir müssen nicht gehen.

8 Sie dürfen hier drin nicht rauchen.

9 Du solltest mehr Gemüse essen.

10 Ich habe in letzter Zeit viel arbeiten müssen.

11 Du musst unbedingt zur Party kommen!

12 Könnten Sie mir bitte die Türe öffnen?

4 Be able to, be allowed to or have to? Complete the sentences in the right tense.

1 I was notbuy beer in the U.S. because I'm not 21!

2 Some day, we will.....do whatever we want.

3 I didn't really enjoy my holiday because Ieat rice every day.

4 I'm afraid you willhelp me in the garden this afternoon.

5shework at weekends, too?

6 Come on. You musttranslate this letter.

7theycall a doctor?- Yes, I was really bad.

8 I'd liketo spend more time travelling abroad.

9 I hope that Ineveraccept conditions like these.

10 Being no member I don't think you willget into that club.

11 He's a bright kid, but he's neverunderstand maths.

12 In that camp last year weplay music after 10 pm.