

MODALS

AUXILIARY VERBS





SSC CGL/CPO/CHSL/STENO

ENGLISH

NEW PATTERN पर आधारित

MODAL AUXILIARY

VERBS

LIVE | 03:00 PM

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MODAL AUXILIARIES

MODAL AUXILIARIES ARE A TYPE OF HELPING VERB THAT ARE USED ONLY WITH A MAIN VERB TO HELP EXPRESS ITS MOOD.

Subject	+	modal auxiliary	+	main verb
James		may		call

THERE ARE TEN MAIN MODAL AUXILIARIES



Modal Auxiliary	Use	Modal Auxiliary + Main Verb
can	Expresses an ability or possibility	I can lift this forty-pound box. (ability) We can embrace green sources of energy. (possibility)
could	Expresses an ability in the past; a present possibility; a past or future permission	I could beat you at chess when we were kids. (past ability) We could bake a pie! (present possibility) Could we pick some flowers from the garden? (future permission)



may	Expresses uncertain future action; permission; ask a yes-no question	I may attend the concert. (uncertain future action)
		You may begin the exam. (permission)
		May I attend the concert? (yes-no questions)
might	Expresses uncertain future action	I might attend the concert (uncertain future action—same as <i>may</i>)



shall

Expresses intended future action

**I shall go to the opera.
(intended future action)**

should

Expresses obligation; ask if an obligation exists

**I should mail my RSVP.
(obligation, same as *ought to*)**

**Should I call my mother?
(asking if an obligation exists)**

will

Expresses intended future action; ask a favor; ask for information

**I will get an A in this class.
(intended future action)**

**Will you buy me some
chocolate? (favor)**



would

**States a preference;
request a choice politely;
explain an action;
introduce habitual past
actions**

I would like the steak, please. (preference)

**Would you like to have breakfast in bed?
(request a choice politely)**

**I would go with you if I didn't have to
babysit tonight. (explain an action)**

**He would write to me every week when
we were dating. (habitual past action)**



must	Expresses obligation	We must be on time for class.
ought to	Expresses obligation	I ought to mail my RSVP. (obligation, same as may)

WOULD, SHOULD, COULD

Would, should and could are three auxiliary verbs that can be defined as past tenses of will, shall, and can; however, you may learn more from seeing sentences using these auxiliaries than from definitions.



WOULD IS THE PAST TENSE OF WILL, BUT IT IS AN AUXILIARY VERB THAT HAS MANY USES, SOME OF WHICH EVEN EXPRESS THE PRESENT TENSE.

● TO ASK QUESTIONS:

1. WOULD YOU LIKE SOME COLESLAW? = DO YOU WANT SOME COLESLAW?

2. WOULD YOU TURN IN YOUR ASSIGNMENT NOW? = PLEASE TURN IN YOUR ASSIGNMENT NOW.

● WITH WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW:

1. HOW WOULD THE NEIGHBORS REACT?



- **TO SHOW REPETITIVE PAST ACTION:**

FOR A MOMENT THE PLANE WOULD BE AIRBORNE, THEN IT WOULD BUMP BACK DOWN ALONG THE HARD EARTH. (THE PLANE WAS IN THE AIR AND THEN BACK ON THE GROUND SEVERAL TIMES.)

- **TO SHOW INTENTION OR PLAN:**

SHE SAID SHE WOULD COME. = SHE SAID SHE WAS PLANNING TO COME.

- **TO SHOW CHOICE:**

I WOULD PUT OFF THE TEST IF I COULD.