

MODAL VERBS

1 Choose the correct answer.

1. The doctor says I **might** / **must** get more exercise.
2. You look great in brown. You **should** / **can** wear it more often.
3. His arm is broken, so he **isn't able to** / **may not** write.
4. Tomorrow is a holiday, so we **mustn't** / **don't have to** get up early.
5. When you are on a diet, you **ought to** / **could** drink a lot of water.
6. He stopped the car so he **should** / **could** rest for a while.

2 Choose the correct continuation.

1. You may borrow the book.
a. I've finished reading it. b. It's a good idea.
2. Greg shouldn't marry Katie.
a. She's already married. b. He doesn't love her.
3. She mustn't drive home.
a. She drank beer at the party. b. Her brother took the car.
4. I don't have to cook dinner.
a. I've never learned to cook. b. We're going out for a meal.

3 Complete the sentences with the modals below.

may • must • can't • could • should

1. You come to us for dinner. I won't accept no for an answer.
2. I have a piece of cake, please?
3. He reach it. He's not tall enough.
4. You always brush your teeth before you go to sleep.
5. I make people laugh when I was young.

4 Replace the words in bold with the words below.

needn't • mustn't • ought to • have to • might • couldn't

1. Tess **should** help her mother more.
2. I'm not sure, but she **may** be French.
3. In some countries, girls **are forbidden to** uncover their faces in public.
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4. You **don't have to** explain.
5. You **must** be careful not to offend them.
6. I'm sorry we **weren't able to** come.

5 Choose the correct answer.

1. The restaurant isn't as busy as I expected. We **mustn't have** / **might not have** / **needn't have** reserved a table.
2. Jay looks happy. He **could have** / **must have** / **ought to have** passed his driving test.
3. I'm so tired this morning. I **couldn't have** / **needn't have** / **shouldn't have** gone to bed so late.

4. You **could have / must have / may have** called to tell us you were coming.

6 Complete the sentences with the correct affirmative or negative modal perfect form of the verbs in brackets. There may be more than one possible answer.

1. Why didn't you write?

You (send) an e-mail or an SMS.

2. You missed a great film last night.

You (come) with us.

3. It's only nine o'clock.

They (go) to bed yet.

4. My dictionary isn't in my bag.

I (leave) it at home.

5. The train won't be here for ages.

We (get) here so early.

7 Choose the correct answer.

1. Danny is clever. He **could read / could have read** when he was five.

2. We **must have remembered / must remember** to buy drinks for the party tonight.

3. You **shouldn't buy / shouldn't have bought** that gift. It was much too expensive.

4. That boy plays the piano really well. He **might become / might have become** a professional pianist one day.

5. I found the book easily. You **couldn't look / couldn't have looked** very hard for it.

6. The dog **must eat / must have eaten** the steak because no one else was at home.

ANSWERS

- 1** 1. must 3. isn't able to 5. ought to
2. should 4. don't have to 6. could
- 2** 1. a 2. b 3. a 4. b
- 3** 1. must 3. can't 5. could
2. May 4. should
- 4** 1. ought to 3. mustn't 5. have to
2. might 4. needn't 6. couldn't
- 5** 1. needn't have 3. shouldn't have
2. must have 4. could have
- 6** 1. could / should have sent
2. should have come
3. might not / couldn't have gone
4. must / might / could have left
5. shouldn't / needn't have got
- 7** 1. could read 4. might become
2. must remember 5. couldn't have looked
3. shouldn't have bought 6. must have eaten

