

1. Match the first sentence with a second one (a-j) to make short exchanges.

1. "Shall we go to a Chinese restaurant this evening?" b
2. "May I borrow your calculator for a moment"?
3. "Would you help me get dinner ready?"
4. "You shouldn't get upset so easily."
5. "You ought to have gone to the doctor as soon as you felt bad."
6. "Do you think I should go and complain to the manager"?
7. "I'm sorry but you can't hand in the assignment a month late."
8. "Could I have some time off to visit my friend in hospital?"
9. "Can I get you anything from the shops?"
10. "You shouldn't have spoken like that to your mother."

- a) "Not really; I'll be popping out myself in a minute."
- b) "I'd rather stay at home."
- c) "Actually, it would be difficult to do without you right now."
- d) "Could you give me another week then?"
- e) "It's up to you really; it depends how strongly you feel."
- f) "I'm sorry but I'm using it."
- g) "I've apologized; what else can I do?"
- h) "Do I have to? I've got to do my homework."
- i) "I can't help it; he really makes me furious."
- j) "I couldn't because there was no one to take me."

2. Summary revision. Each modal verb can have several meanings. For each of the following sentences, two explanations are given. Underline the most likely explanation.

Example: Abby **should get** good results in her exams.

- a. Abby has an obligation to get good results in her exams.
- b. It is probably Abby will get good results in her exams.

1. I **couldn't swim** until I was 10 years old.

- a. I didn't have permission to swim until I was 10 years old.
- b. I didn't have the ability to swim until I was 10 years old.

2. Passengers **may smoke** once the plane is airborne.

- a. There is a possibility that passengers will smoke once the plane is airborne.
- b. Passengers have permission to smoke once the plane is airborne.

3. No one **can smoke** on the London Underground.

- a. No one has the ability to smoke on the London Underground.

b. No one has permission to smoke on the London Underground.

4. You **should wear** glasses.

a. My advice is that you wear glasses.

b. There is a probability that you will have to wear glasses.

5. **Will** you **answer** the door?

a. Are you at some time in the future going to answer the door?

b. I'm asking to answer the door.

6. I **couldn't get** the top off the bottle.

a. I did not have permission to get the top off the bottle.

b. I did not manage to get the top off the bottle.

7. You **must be** tired.

a. I am sure you are tired.

b. I order you to be tired.

8. Bruce's got a meeting after work so he **may not go** to the party.

a. Bruce does not have permission to go to the party.

b. There's a possibility Bruce won't go to the party.

9. You **might have helped** to clear up after the party!

a. I'm angry because I think you ought to have helped clear up.

b. I think that there's just a possibility that you helped to clear up.

3. Fill in can, could, have to, may, might, must, need, should or (not) allowed to.

1. He go skating because he broke his leg.

2. Many children in Britain ... wear school uniforms.

3. I'm not sure but Jane come to visit me this afternoon.

4. Didn't you see the sign? You ... drive more than 30 miles.

5. He speaks a lot of languages, but he ... speak Chinese.

6. It ... snow. It looks like it.

7. You... drive on the right in Britain.

8. He is a good boxer. You ... be careful.

9. You.. smoke in the office.

10. This test will be very difficult. So you ... learn a lot.

11. You ... eat more vegetables because they are healthy.

12. I don't... the car. You.. take it.

13. He does everything himself. He.. help.

14. It's going to rain. You.... shut the window.

15. You ... start a fire in the forest.