

Modal Verbs (Possibility, obligation, Probability)

Obligation

1) Fill the gaps with suitable modal verbs: must, have to, should, ought to (positive or negative)

1. If you want to lose weight, you eat pasta, potatoes, white bread and sweets.
2. You drink and drive.
3. Orange juice in cartons has no goodness in it at all. You make it yourself.
4. I haven't talked with my parents for 2 weeks. I call my parents today.
5. They wear their uniforms at school.
6. I stop smoking. It costs me too much money.
7. You wear a tie to go to that restaurant, but it would be nice.
8. I stay on for a few more hours because I'd rather work late today than over the weekend.
9. We be there fifteen minutes before the concert starts.
10. Sally is extremely rich. She work.
11. I'm sorry I couldn't come yesterday. I work late.
12. There's an elevator in the building, so we climb the stairs.
13. When you come to Canada again, you come and see us.
14. I don't want anyone to know about this. You tell anyone.
15. My eyesight isn't very good. I wear glasses for reading.

Probability

2) Look at the questions and choose someone in your class who you think answers the questions.

Then, walk around the class asking your classmates the questions and check if your guess was right or wrong!

Example:

Who might be married? - Bob

Bob, are you married?

Question	Who do you think?	True or False
Who might be married?		
Who might have children?		
Who could be really intelligent?		
Who must understand a lot of English?		
Who may speak more than two languages?		
Who might have more than two siblings?		
Who might be in love?		
Who might be interested in fashion?		
Who may be fond of computer games?		
Who can't be single?		
Who might be tired today?		
Who may have need to learn English for their job?		
Who could be a coffee addict?		

Possibility

Choose the correct modal verb to complete the sentence.

1. Look! Our car isn't in the driveway. Somebody
 - a. must be stealing it
 - b. might have stolen it
 - c. could steal it

d. must have stolen it

2. The class starts at 8:30. It's 8:45 and Ahmed is not here yet. He....

- a. must be sick
- b. may have missed the bus
- c. must have been sick
- d. must have missed the bus

3. My roommate promised to clean the kitchen, but it's still messy. He....

- a. can't clean it
- b. couldn't clean it
- c. can't have cleaned it
- d. might not have cleaned it

4. I don't know why he hasn't called me back. He...

- a. might be forgetting my number
- b. might forget my number
- c. must have forgotten my number
- d. might have forgotten my number

5. Where is my purse? I've seen it earlier, so itin the restaurant.

- a. must be
- b. might have been
- c. must have forgotten
- d. can't forget

6. It a lot in the night. There are puddles everywhere.

- a. may rain
- b. might be raining

- c. must have rained
- d. can't have rained

7. Ted and Jane very tired. They have a new baby.

- a. may have been
- b. must be
- c. can't be
- d. must have been

8. I've bought a lottery ticket. I a millionaire.

- a. must become
- b. might become
- c. might have become
- d. couldn't be

9. She's only lived in Paris for a few weeks. She...French fluently.

- a. must speak
- b. might have spoken
- c. can't speak
- d. might speak

10. A: What's that deafening noise out there?

B: My downstairs neighbours another party. It's the fifth one this month.

- a. may have
- b. must have had
- c. must be having
- d. could be having