

Modal verbs Y5 18.5.20

### **Possibility**

Modal verbs can be used when we want to show how likely something is to happen.  
E.g. *It might rain tomorrow.*

### **Ability**

Modal verbs can be used when we want to show a skill or someone's ability to do something. For example:  
E.g. *Jack can sing.*

### **Obligation and advice**

Modal verbs can be used to state when something is necessary/compulsory, to give an instruction or to give advice.  
E.g. *You must tidy your room.*

### **Permission**

Modal verbs are used to give or ask for permission for an activity.  
E.g. *You may have another biscuit.*

A. Identify the modal verbs in each sentence.

1. Steve could get some chicken but he might choose fish instead.
2. Aaron ought to go home but he can't get a bus.
3. Barry won't be having chips tonight.
4. Harry may go to the cinema later.
5. Jasmine will collect the car from the garage.
6. Sarah might be home late.
7. Amy should be home by nine o'clock.
8. David must take the dog for a walk.

B. Rewrite each sentence, changing the modal verb so that the possibility/probability in the sentence is different.

C. Create sentences using the modal verbs below:

can  
would  
will  
must  
may  
won't  
ought  
should

D. Which modal verbs indicate something is certain to happen?  
Which modal verbs indicate something has a 50/50 chance of happening?  
Which modal verbs show something is certain not to happen?