

Mini Lesson 327 - Questions with Modal Verbs

Modal verbs are auxiliary verbs used to express possibility, ability, permission, or obligation. Common modal verbs include can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, and will. When forming questions with modal verbs, the structure is typically:

- Question form: Modal verb + subject + base form of the verb?

Examples:

- Can you swim?
- Should I call you later?

When to use different modal verbs:

- Can: ability or permission (e.g., Can I go outside?)
- Could: past ability or polite request (e.g., Could you help me?)
- May: formal permission (e.g., May I use your phone?)
- Might: less certain possibility (e.g., Might we see a movie this weekend?)
- Must: strong necessity (e.g., Must I finish this today?)
- Should: advice or recommendation (e.g., Should we start studying?)





Exercises:

Section 1: Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks using the correct modal verb (can, could, may, might, must, should) and the base form of the verb provided in parentheses.

- 1. _____ I borrow your book? (borrow)
- 2. You ______ take your umbrella; it looks like rain. (take)
- 3. He ______ swim when he was five. (swim)
- 4. We _____ go to the park tomorrow if it's sunny. (go)
- 5. You ______ ask your teacher for help. (ask)
- 6. She ______ come to the party if she finishes her homework. (come)
- 7. You ______ finish your project by Friday. (finish)

Section 2: Form Questions

Use the prompts to create questions using the correct modal verb.

1. (Can / you / help me)

2. (Should / we / study together)

3. (May / I / sit here)

- 4. (Must / they / wear uniforms)
- 5. (Could / you / speak French)

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Section 3: Choose the Correct Modal

Circle the correct modal verb to complete each sentence.

- 1. You (may/must) finish your homework before playing games.
- 2. (Can/Should) he help you with the project?
- 3. (Might/Could) we have a test tomorrow?
- 4. She (should/must) ask for permission before leaving.
- 5. You (could/may) win a prize if you enter the contest.

Section 4: Complete the Dialogue

Fill in the blanks in the conversation using the appropriate modal verbs.

A: ______ we go to the library after school?

B: Sure! I ______ help you find some books.

A: Thanks! Do you think we ______ find a quiet place to study?

B: Yes, we ______ find a nice spot near the window.

A: Awesome! I ______ ask my teacher if I can stay a little longer.





Answers:

Section 1:

- 1. May
- 2. should
- 3. could
- 4. might
- 5. can
- 6. might
- 7. must

Section 2:

- 1. Can you help me?
- 2. Should we study together?
- 3. May I sit here?
- 4. Must they wear uniforms?
- 5. Could you speak French?

Section 3:

- 1. must
- 2. Can
- 3. Might
- 4. should
- 5. could

Section 4:

- 1. Can
- 2. can
- 3. might
- 4. should
- 5. may



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