

## VERBOS MODALES - MODAL VERBS

## BASIC LEVEL

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF MODAL VERBS.
2. VERBOS MODALES BÁSICOS.
3. SUMMARY

Los verbos modales se usan para:

- Expresar nuestras intenciones.
- Hablar sobre habilidad, probabilidad, obligación y prohibición.
- Hacer ofrecimientos, peticiones y sugerencias.

Los verbos modales siempre acompañan a otro verbo y funcionan como un tipo especial de verbo auxiliar.

### 1. BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF MODAL VERBS

**1.1) AFIRMATIVA:** Los verbos modales siempre van seguidos por la FORMA BASE de otro verbo (sin "to")

SUBJECT + MODAL VERB + BASE FORM + COMPLEMENTS

I **must go** now.  
You **should go** to the doctor.  
They **can speak** English very well.

**1.2) NEGATIVA:** en negativa sólo se añade NOT o N'T al verbo modal.

SUBJECT + MODAL VERB + NOT + BASE FORM + COMPL.

He **can't speak** English.  
She **shouldn't go** to the party.  
You **mustn't smoke** here.

**1.3) INTERROGATIVA :** Las preguntas se forman colocando el verbo modal delante del sujeto.

[ WH word ] + MODAL VERB + SUBJECT + BASE FORM + COMPL.?

**Can you speak** English? Yes, I **can** / No, I **can't**  
**Should I go** to the doctor? Yes, you **should** / No, you **shouldn't**  
Where **must we go**?

**1.4) A los verbos modales NUNCA se les añade -S en la 3ª persona del singular (he-she-it) de Presente Simple.**

Mary **must go** now / Peter **can't drive** a car.

He **should visit** a doctor. / She **can speak** English very well.

### 2. BASIC MODAL VERBS.

MODAL VERBS	SEMIMODAL VERB
<b>CAN</b> (poder, saber) <b>COULD</b> (podía/ podría) <b>SHOULD</b> (debería) <b>MUST</b> (deber)	<b>HAVE TO</b> (tener que)

**1. CAN** = SABER , PODER / **2. COULD** = SABÍA, PODÍA , PODRÍA. (past form)

USOS:

**1.1** Para expresar **HABILIDAD (ABILITY)** o capacidad para hacer algo ("saber")

I **can swim** very well / My brother **can't drive** yet.

I **could speak** English when I was eight years old.

He **couldn't ride** a bike when he was four. (ABILITY in the past)

**1.2** Para expresar **POSIBILIDAD (POSSIBILITY)**

What **can I do**? You **can finish** your studies and **go** to the university.

You **can work** to earn money.

You **can lose** your time watching tv.

**1.3** Para pedir y dar **PERMISO (PERMISSION)** y hacer **PETICIONES (REQUESTS)**. Usamos **COULD** en situaciones más formales ( **Podría...?** )

\***Can I go** to the toilet? Yes, you **can**. / No, you **can't**.

**Can you help** me? / **Can I have** some water, please? /

**Can you close** the door, please?

\***Could I use** my mobile phone?

**Could you help** me? / **Could I have** some water, please? /

**Could you close** the door, please?

## 2. SHOULD = DEBERÍA

USOS:

2.1 Para dar **CONSEJOS (to give ADVICE)** y hacer recomendaciones.

*I **should eat** more vegetables/ You **should study** more.  
He **shouldn't smoke**/ They **shouldn't tell** lies.*

## 3. MUST= DEBER

USOS:

3.1 **Forma afirmativa:** para expresar la **OBLIGACIÓN (OBLIGATION)** o necesidad fuerte de hacer algo: **must**

*You **must brush** your teeth. / You **must do** your homework.*

3.2 **Forma negativa:** para expresar la **PROHIBICIÓN (PROHIBITION)** de hacer algo: **mustn't**

*You **mustn't cheat** in an exam. / You **mustn't eat** in the library.*

## 4. HAVE TO = TENER QUE

(¡¡¡Cuidado con la estructura de este verbo da problemas!!! )

ESTRUCTURA:

**AFF:** SUBJECT + **HAVE / HAS TO** + BASE FORM + COMPL.

**NEG:** SUBJECT + **DON'T / DOESN'T HAVE TO** + BASE FORM + COMPL.

**INT:** [ WH word ] + **DO / DOES** + SUBJECT + **HAVE TO** + BASE FORM + COMPL.

USOS:

4.1 **Forma afirmativa:** para expresar la **OBLIGACIÓN** de hacer algo (como MUST). Sobre todo se utiliza con normas externas ya establecidas.

*You **have to wear** a helmet / You **have to fasten** your seatbelt in the car.  
She **has to wear** uniform/ He **has to be** at home at 23:00.*

4.2 **Forma negativa:** para expresar **que no es necesario o no hace falta hacer algo.**

*I **don't have to get up** early tomorrow.  
She **doesn't have to wear** uniform in her school  
He **doesn't have to be** at home at 23:00.*

\* Transforma estas oraciones a negativa e interrogativa:  
*I **must go** to the dentist. She **must study** harder.  
I **have to go** to the dentist. She **has to study** harder.*

## 3. SUMMARY OF MODAL VERBS AND THEIR USES:

ABILITY	OBLIGATION	PROHIBITION	ABSENCE OF NECESSITY
CAN	MUST	MUSTN'T	<i>DON'T HAVE TO DOESN'T HAVE TO</i>
COULD	SHOULD	CAN'T	
	<i>HAVE / HAS TO</i>		

## MODAL VERB ACTIVITIES

### 1. Circle the correct modal verb.

- You don't look well. You **can** / **should** see a doctor.
- We **shouldn't** / **have to** leave now or we'll miss the plane.
- You **must** / **could** call me later. I want to talk to you about something.
- Danny wasn't at school yesterday. He **has to** / **can** find out what the homework is.
- My necklace broke yesterday and I **couldn't** / **shouldn't** fix it.
- The phone is ringing. **Could** / **Should** I answer it?
- It isn't far to the park. We **must** / **can** walk there.
- You **shouldn't** / **can't** throw rubbish in the street.
- You **mustn't** / **don't have to** clean the house every day, but I'll be happy if you do.
- When I was on holiday I **could** / **mustn't** sleep late.

### 2. Circle the correct modal verb.

- I ... speak five languages.
  - must
  - should
  - can
- We ... be at the bus station an hour early.
  - have to
  - shouldn't
  - don't have to
- You ... be afraid to express your opinion.
  - shouldn't
  - can't
  - must
- I ... read his writing – it was so messy.
  - don't have to
  - couldn't
  - mustn't
- You ... insult him. He's very sensitive.
  - should
  - can't
  - mustn't

### 3. Look at the table. Complete the sentences with the correct form of HAVE TO and the correct verbs.

	Gina	Andrew	Baby Alice	Eddie	Maria
Get up at 6.30 am	✓	✓	X	X	X
Make bed	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Cook lunch	✓	✓	X	X	X
Wash the dishes	X	X	X	✓	✓
Go to school	X	X	X	✓	✓
Drive to work	✓	✓	X	X	X

- Gina and Andrew \_\_\_\_\_ lunch.
- Eddie and Maria \_\_\_\_\_ lunch.
- Baby Alice \_\_\_\_\_ up early.
- Gina \_\_\_\_\_ to work.

### 4. Write QUESTIONS and SHORT ANSWERS with the correct form of HAVE TO and the verbs from the table in 3.

- Eddie / his bed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Gina and Andrew / at 6:30 am?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Alice / her bed?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Andrew / to work?  
\_\_\_\_\_