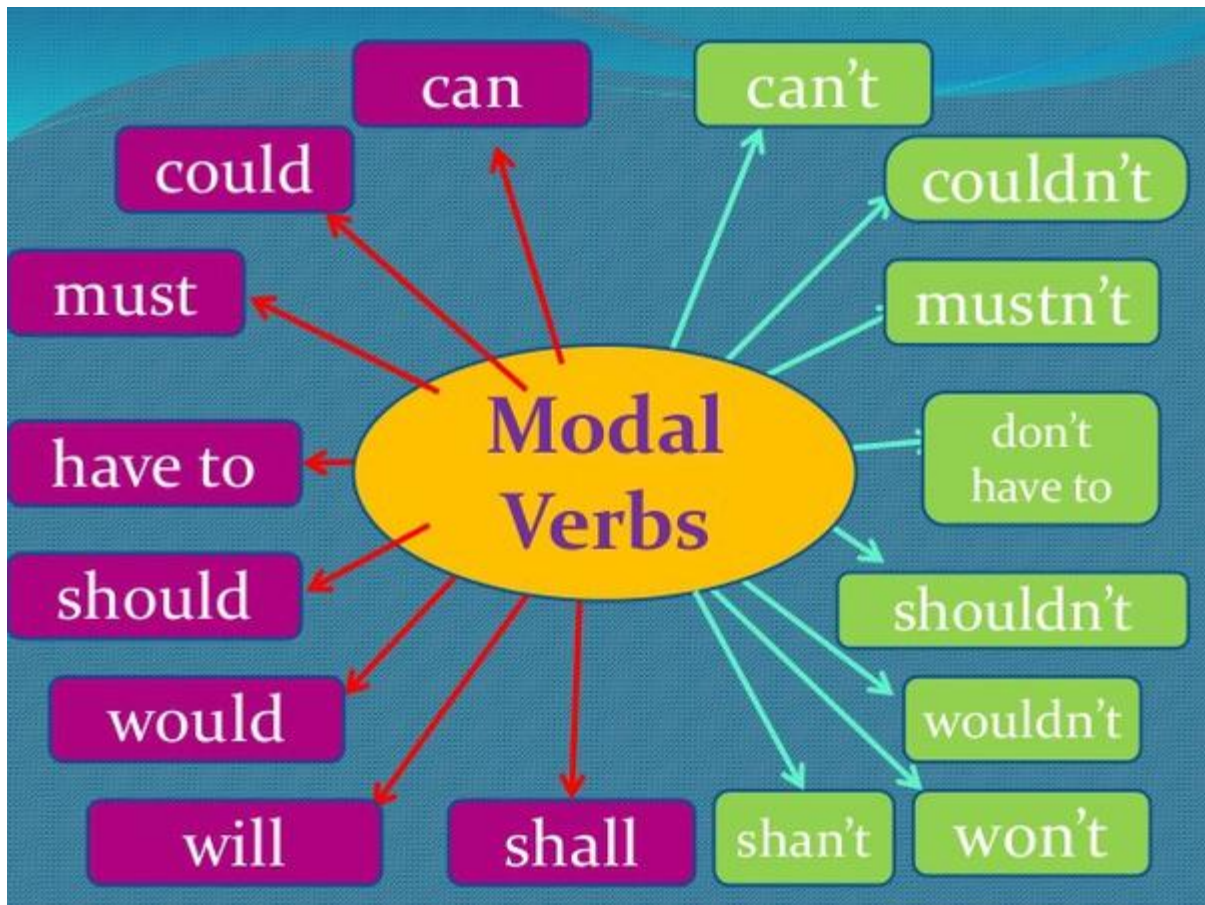


MODALS



What is MODALS?

A modal is a type of auxiliary (helping verb) that is used to express: ability, possibility, permission or obligation.

Example-

Can, could, may, might, must, will, would, shall, should etc

Can-

Use	Example-
Ability to do something.	I can speak English.
Permission to do something.	Can I go to the cinema?
Request	Can you wait a moment, please?
Offer	I can lend you my car till tomorrow.
Possibility	It can get very hot in Arizona.

Could-

Use	Example-
Ability to do something in the past	I could speak English.
Permission to do something in the past	I could go to the cinema.
Polite question	Could I go to the cinema, please?
Polite request	Could you wait a moment, please?
Polite offer	I could lend you my car till tomorrow.
Possibility	It could get very hot in Montana.

May-

Use	Example-
Possibility	It may rain today.
Permission to do something in the present	It may rain today.
Polite suggestion	May I help you?

Might-

Use	Example-
Possibility (less possible than may)	It might rain today.
Hesitant offer	Might I help you?

Must-

Use	Example-
Force, necessity	I must go to the supermarket today.
Possibility	You must be tired.

Advice, recommendation	You must see the new film with friends.
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Shall-

Use	Example-
Suggestion	Shall I carry your bag?

Should-

Use	Example-
Advice	You should drive carefully in bad weather.
Obligation	You should switch off the light when you leave the room.

Will-

Use	Example-
Wish, request, demand, order (less polite than would)	Will you please shut the door?
Prediction, assumption	I think it will rain on Friday.
Promise	I will stop smoking.
Spontaneous decision	Can somebody drive me to the station? - I will.
Habits	She's strange, she'll sit for hours without talking.

Would-

Use	Example-
Wish, request (more polite than will)	Would you shut the door, please?
habits in the past	Sometimes he would bring me some flowers.

Ought to-

Use	Example-
Advice	You ought to drive carefully in bad weather.
Obligation	You ought to switch off the light when you leave the room.

Used to-

Use	Example-
Past habit	I used to study till 10 PM.

Have to-

Use	Example-
Obligation	Children have to go to school.

Need/Dare-

Use	Example-
Need	He needn't worry about me.
Dare	I daren't look into his eyes.