Name: _____ Date: _____

Modal verbs

Grammar worksheet · Gramática en inglés americano: los verbos modales (can, could, must, have to, should, might, would)

Remember!

Modal verb	Use	Example
can / can't	ability, permission	I can swim. You can go now.
could / couldn't	past ability, polite requests	I could read at four. Could you help me?
may / might	possibility (may: also formal permission)	It might rain. May I come in?
must / mustn't	obligation / prohibition	You must stop. You mustn't run.
have to / don't have to	obligation / no obligation	I have to go. You don't have to pay.
should / shouldn't	advice	You should rest. You shouldn't shout.
will / would	requests and offers	Will you help me? Would you like some tea?

• Modal + base form, the same for all persons: She can swim (not She cans swim or She can to swim).
• Negative: modal + not (can't, mustn't). Question: modal + subject (Can you...?). Have to is not a modal: Do you have to...?
• mustn't = it is not allowed · don't have to = it is not necessary.

1 Circle the correct option.

Encierran en un círculo la opción correcta: la forma del modal o el modal que encaja con el sentido.

1. My dad (don't have to / doesn't have to) work on Sundays.
2. I'm not sure where Ana is. She (can / might) be in the library.
3. You have a fever. You (should / shouldn't) stay in bed today.
4. You (mustn't / must) wear a seatbelt in the car.
5. You look tired. You (should / shouldn't) go to bed early tonight.
6. You (shouldn't / should) eat so much sugar. It's bad for your teeth.

2 Complete with a modal verb from the box. The word in brackets tells you the use.

Completan cada frase con un modal del recuadro; el paréntesis indica el uso (ability, permission, obligation, prohibition, no obligation, advice, possibility u offer).

can **must** **mustn't** **have to** **don't have to** **should** **shouldn't**

1. You have a bad cold. You _____ (advice) stay at home.
2. Visitors _____ (prohibition) touch the paintings.
3. How many languages _____ (ability) you speak?
4. Everyone _____ (obligation) wear a helmet on the bike trip.
5. We _____ (prohibition) run in the hallways.
6. The concert is free. You _____ (no obligation) buy a ticket.

3 Match each sentence with its use.

Unen cada frase con el uso del modal: ability, permission, obligation, prohibition, no obligation, advice, possibility, request u offer.

1.	Take a coat. It may get cold later.	●	● a) prohibition
2.	Students mustn't run in the hallways.	●	● b) permission
3.	You may leave when you finish the test.	●	● c) possibility
4.	Can you help me with this box, please?	●	● d) ability
5.	She doesn't have to work on Sundays.	●	● e) request
6.	I can swim very fast.	●	● f) no obligation

4 Correct the mistakes.

Cada frase tiene un error típico con los modales. La escriben bien en la línea.

1. Should I to call you later? → _____
2. He should studies more. → _____
3. Can she drives? → _____
4. He can't to come to the party. → _____
5. He have to wear glasses. → _____
6. Do you can play chess? → _____

5 Write the rules of your classroom and give some advice.

Escriben normas de clase y consejos con must, mustn't, don't have to y should.

In our classroom, we must _____

We mustn't _____

We don't have to _____

A good classmate should _____

Modal verbs · Answer key

Soluciones · Grammar worksheet · Gramática en inglés americano: los verbos modales (can, could, must, have to, should, might, would)

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2 Complete with a modal verb from the box. The word in brackets tells you the use.

Completan cada frase con un modal del recuadro; el paréntesis indica el uso (ability, permission, obligation, prohibition, no obligation, advice, possibility u offer).

can **must** **mustn't** **have to** **don't have to** **should** **shouldn't**

1. You have a bad cold. You **should** (advice) stay at home.
2. Visitors **mustn't** (prohibition) touch the paintings.
3. How many languages **can** (ability) you speak?
4. Everyone **must** (obligation) wear a helmet on the bike trip.
5. We **mustn't** (prohibition) run in the hallways.
6. The concert is free. You **don't have to** (no obligation) buy a ticket.

3 Match each sentence with its use.

Unen cada frase con el uso del modal: ability, permission, obligation, prohibition, no obligation, advice, possibility, request u offer.

1.	Take a coat. It may get cold later.	a)	prohibition
2.	Students mustn't run in the hallways.	b)	permission
3.	You may leave when you finish the test.	c)	possibility
4.	Can you help me with this box, please?	d)	ability
5.	She doesn't have to work on Sundays.	e)	request
6.	I can swim very fast.	f)	no obligation

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Cada frase tiene un error típico con los modales. La escriben bien en la línea.

1. Should I to call you later? → Should I call you later?
2. He should studies more. → He should study more.
3. Can she drives? → Can she drive?
4. He can't to come to the party. → He can't come to the party.
5. He have to wear glasses. → He has to wear glasses.
6. Do you can play chess? → Can you play chess?

5 Write the rules of your classroom and give some advice.

Escriben normas de clase y consejos con must, mustn't, don't have to y should.

Respuesta libre. Ejemplo: In our classroom, we must listen when someone is speaking. We mustn't eat in class. We don't have to stand up to answer. A good classmate should help others.