

MODAL VERBS: CAN/ COULD/ MAY/ MIGHT/ MUST/ MUSTN'T/ NEED/ NEEDN'T/ SHOULD/ SHOULDN'T ...

1. CAN/ COULD:

* **Can** (có thể) → **chỉ khả năng ở hiện tại**

Ex: She is good with computers. She *can* write programs.

* **Could** (có thể) → **chỉ khả năng ở quá khứ**

Ex: Nancy *could* play the piano when she was four.

* **Can / Could** → **nhờ vả/ yêu cầu/ đề nghị**

Ex: • *Can* you tell me where Mr Lawson's office is?

• *Can* I make a suggestion?

• *Could* you post that letter for me?

• *Could* I have a glass of water?

* **Can / Could** → **hỏi xin phép**

Ex: • *Can* I use your pen?

• *Could* we borrow your ladder, please?

* **Can** → **cho phép**

Ex: You *can* wait in my office if you like.

2. MAY/ MIGHT:

✦ **May/ Might** → **Suy đoán tình huống có khả năng xảy ra (Hiện tại/ Tương lai)**

Ex: • There's someone at the door. It *may* be Mary.

• A: Where is Tom? B: He *may/ might* be in the library.

• Take an umbrella with you when you go out. It *may/ might* rain later.

✦ **May/ Might:** → **hỏi xin phép**

Ex: • *May* I borrow your car, Dad?

Ex: • *Might* I ask you one more question, sir?

✦ **May** → **cho phép**

Ex: • You *may* go home when you finish work.

★ **Notes:**

• **Hỏi xin phép:** *can/ could/ may/ might*

• **Cho phép:** *can/ may*

✦ **(-) may not/ might not (mightn't)**

Ex: • This bill *may/might not* be right. It seems too high.

3. MUST/ MUSTN'T:

✦ **Must (phải)** → **Sự bắt buộc/ sự khẩn thiết phải làm gì**

Ex: • You *must* be home by 9 o'clock.

• You *must* answer all the questions.

• My toothache is getting worse. I *must* go and see the dentist today.

✦ **Must = Have to**

• **Must:** ý kiến mang tính chủ quan

• **Have to:** ý kiến mang tính khách quan

Ex: • In many countries, men *have to* do military service. (It is a law.)

• Jill won't be at work this afternoon. She *has to* go to the doctor. (It is a fact.)

• **Have to** → **had to (quá khứ)**

(-) S + don't/ doesn't/ didn't + have to + V + ...

(?) Do/ Does/ Did + S + have to + V + ...?

Ex: • I am not working tomorrow, so I *don't have to* get up early.

• John *doesn't have to* work very hard. He has an easy job.

• We *didn't have to* wait very long for the bus.

• What time *do you have to* go to the dentist tomorrow?

• *Does* Nancy *have to* work on Sundays?

• Why *did they have to* leave the party early?

+ Must → Sự suy đoán/ suy luận chắc chắn ở hiện tại

- Ex: • You *must* be tired after your long journey.
• Tom hasn't come yet. He *must* be stuck in the traffic.

+ Must be + Ving → suy luận về điều gì đang diễn ra ở hiện tại

- Ex: • Listen. It *must be raining* outside.
• What she is asking for is ridiculous. It's crazy. She *must be joking*.

+ Mustn't (không được) → Sự nghiêm cấm

- Ex: • You *mustn't* park here.
• Students *mustn't* bring their cell phones into the examination room.
• You *mustn't* open the door before the train stops. You could fall out.

4. NEED/ NEEDN'T:

▲ Need → Sự cần thiết (phải làm gì)

- Ex: • I *need* to ask some advice.
• All living things *need* water.

▲ Needn't + V → Sự không cần thiết phải làm gì

- Ex: • You *needn't apologize*. It wasn't your fault.
• You *needn't wash* those glasses. They are clean.
• You *needn't tell* Jane about the party. I've already told her.

Note: Need còn được dùng như một động từ thường

- Ex: • You *don't need to worry*. (You *needn't worry*.)

◆ needn't have + V₃/ Ved (không cần thiết làm việc gì nhưng đã làm)

→ You *needn't have made* so much food for the party. Nobody was very hungry.

◆ didn't need + to infinitive (không cần thiết làm việc gì và đã không làm)

→ I *didn't need to unlock* the door because it was already unlocked.

5. SHOULD/ SHOULDN'T:

★ Should/ shouldn't + V → Sự hợp lí, đúng đắn, một lời khuyên

- Ex: • Parents *should spend* as much time with their children as possible.
• That is an interesting book – you *should read* it.
• You *shouldn't watch* TV so much.
• You *shouldn't go* swimming right after eating.

6. Modals + the perfect

◆ should have + V₃/ Ved: Lẽ ra phải, lẽ ra nên (sự hối tiếc về điều gì trong quá khứ)

Ex: • I *should have posted* the letter yesterday, but I forgot.

◆ must have + V₃/ Ved: chắc hẳn đã (suy luận chắc chắn 01 việc trong quá khứ)

Ex: • They *must have got* lost or they'd be here by now.

◆ could/ might/ may have + V₃/ Ved: có lẽ đã

Ex: • *Peter:* I can't find my wallet anywhere.

Sue: You *could have left it at home*.

◆ can't have + V₃/ Ved: không thể nào ... (suy luận chắc chắn 01 việc không thể xảy ra trong quá khứ)

Ex: • Their daughter is only three this year. She *can't have started* school yet.