

Modal verbs exercise

- 1) Circle the correct word or phrase. If both options are correct, circle both
- Hello, **could / can** I speak to Mrs Johnson, please?
 - We **could / were allowed to** go home early yesterday because our teachers was ill.
 - The head teacher said we **could / were allowed to** go home.
 - Do you think I **should / could** be worried about these spots on my forehead?
 - You **ought to / should** enter the talent contest!
 - You **couldn't / shouldn't** talk to people like that! It's rude!
 - Alan should **write / have written** two essays in the exam yesterday, not one!
 - No, you **may / should** not go out tonight. You know you're grounded!
 - Diana should have **waited / been waiting** for me at the corner. I wonder where she went.
 - What were you doing in the park? You ought to have **done / been doing** your homework then!
 - Yes, of course you **can / are able to** open the window if you're too hot!
- 2) Use the words below only once to complete the sentences in Table A. the meaning of the sentences in Table B will help you.

Able, cannot, could, had, have, might, must, needn't, mustn't, ought, should, will

Table A	Table B
1. I _____ have left my bag on the bus.	<i>Expressing certainty</i>
2. In a few months, I'll be _____ to buy a car.	<i>Expressing future ability</i>
3. I _____ drive when I was thirteen years old!	<i>Expressing past ability</i>
4. No, you _____ have any more pocket money!	<i>Refusing a request</i>
5. I think you _____ consider a career in the armed forces.	<i>Giving advice</i>
6. I _____ forget to phone Julie tonight!	<i>Expressing personal obligation</i>
7. I _____ to have a filling at the dentist's.	<i>Expressing external obligation in the past</i>
8. You don't _____ to do Exercise D for homework.	<i>Expressing a lack of obligation</i>
9. You _____ have to work a lot harder if you want to get a good report.	<i>Expressing future obligation</i>
10. They _____ to arrive at about 8.	<i>Expressing probability</i>
11. Sean _____ have got stuck in traffic.	<i>Expressing possibility</i>
12. I _____ have worried so much about Jan's present. She loved it!	<i>Expressing a lack of past obligation</i>

Formal Letter Exercise

The following is an informal letter requesting an informational interview at a law firm. Change it so it sounds more formal (and the applicant actually has a chance of seeing the desired person!). The problem parts are highlighted for you; rewriting of other parts is fine as long as it is related to the phrases in bold:

Hi Ms. Goldstein!

I'm now an undergraduate student at Ivy League University majoring in Criminal Justice. **My buddy**, Filoména Šebestová, who previously worked for your Law Firm as an Office Clerk, **told me I should** contact you for a **nice info** interview.

I'd really love to be a business law attorney, such as yourself. Filoména **said you're a great** business law attorney **who's going to help me a lot** about understanding the field. **Now I'm** in the process of exploring different professional law schools. Your background and experience in business law will be **great for** me as I pursue my career in law. **I hope seeing you is ok**, I would like to schedule a 20-25 minute informational meeting with you. **Why I want to see you** is to gather additional information that will better assist me with my career decisions.

I'll contact you by telephone on June 9th to see if we can schedule a meeting. **Thanks** for your attention, and I hope we can spend some productive time together **pretty soon!**

Have a nice day,

Přemysl Vomáčka