

REVISION OF MODAL VERBS

FORM AND USE

- Modals do not take a final **–s**, even when the subject is *she, he, it* (**She can do it.**). The only exception is **have to: She has to do it.**
- Modals have the same form in all persons.
- Modals are followed immediately by the simple form of a verb. (*She can do it.*)
- There is no *do* or *does* in questions or negative phrases. (*She can do it. – Can she do it? – She cannot do it.*) The only exception is **have to: She doesn't have to do it. – Does she have to do it?**

Modal verbs	Czech translation	Use
can can't		ability: Sue <i>can</i> dance quite well but she <i>can't</i> sing. permission: You <i>can't</i> come in here. <i>Can</i> we go home now?
must need not		necessity/obligation: You <i>must</i> clean your room. lack of necessity: He <i>needn't</i> come.
have to/has to don't have to/doesn't have to		necessity/obligation: You can't turn right. You <i>have to</i> turn left. = it's not necessary: We <i>don't have to</i> wear a uniform at my school.
mustn't		= it is necessary that you do not do it, you can't , it's prohibited/negative obligation: You must keep it a secret. You <i>mustn't</i> tell anyone.
should shouldn't		something is/isn't a good idea/the right thing to do (to give advice, to make suggestion): You look tired. You <i>should</i> go to bed. You <i>shouldn't</i> watch TV.
would would not		a hypothetical action or event in the present: I <i>would</i> go there if I had time. (But I don't have it.)
may, might may not, might not		= it's possible: It <i>may/might</i> be true. = perhaps it isn't true: I'm not sure whether I can lend you any money. I <i>may not</i> have enough.

PRACTICE

1 Choose the correct completion.

- 1 Mary can _____ to the meeting.
a) comes b) to come c) come
- 2 Jack should _____ harder.
a) studies b) study c) to study
- 3 The whole team must _____ together in order to win the game.
a) work b) worked c) works
- 4 You have _____ an umbrella when you go out. It looks like it's going to rain.
a) take b) taken c) to take
- 5 We have a lot of food in the fridge so you needn't _____ shopping.
a) to go b) going c) go

2 Complete the sentences. Use *must*, *mustn't*, *don't/doesn't have to*.

- 1 We haven't got much time. We _____ hurry.
- 2 We have enough food at home so we _____ go shopping today.
- 3 Jim gave me a letter to post yesterday. I _____ remember to post it today.
- 4 Jim gave me a letter to post yesterday. I _____ forget to post it today.
- 5 There is plenty of time for you to make up your mind. You _____ decide now.
- 6 Jane _____ wash those tomatoes. They've already been washed.
- 7 This is a valuable book. You _____ look after it carefully and you _____ lose it.
- 8 "What sort of house do you want to buy?" "Well, it _____ be big, that's not important. But it _____ have a nice garden, because I love flowers."

3 Put a form of *have to* or *should* into each gap. Sometimes the verb forms are negative.

- 1 Your hair is too long. I think you _____ get it cut.
- 2 You smell, and you've got a cough. You _____ smoke.
- 3 I'm going to bed. I _____ be up early tomorrow.
- 4 I'd like to meet your boyfriend. You _____ invite him.
- 5 You _____ come with me if you don't want to. I'll go on my own.
- 6 You _____ tell lies. It's naughty.
- 7 Geoff works too much. I think he _____ take it easy.

4 Choose the correct completion according to the meaning.

1 She got the job because she _____ speak five languages.

- a. must** **b. can**

2 "I have a toothache." "You _____ go to a doctor."

- a. would** **b. should**

3 They _____ finish the bridge in time for the holiday traffic.

- a. might** **b. mustn't**

4 I _____ go any farther. I am exhausted.

- a. cannot** **b. may not**

5 If you asked me nicely, I _____ buy you that sweater.

- a. must** **b. would**

6 You _____ make so much noise. He is trying to concentrate.

- a. wouldn't** **b. shouldn't**

7 It _____ rain this evening. Why don't you take an umbrella?

- a. must** **b. might**

8 "My boss is always looking over my shoulder whenever I do anything."

"That _____ bother you." "But it does."

- a. shouldn't** **b. would not**

9 "Is littering against the law?"

"Yes. There's a law that says that you _____ throw trash on the streets."

- a. Shouldn't** **b. must not**

10 "I need some help with this table. _____ you lift the other end, please?"

"Sure, just a second."

- a. would** **b. may**