



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 (= infinitive). (**She can do it.**)
- There is **NO do or does** in questions or negative phrases. When we want to make a question we just change the word order. (**She can do it. – Can she do it? – She cannot do it.**) The only exception is **have to: Does she have to do it? – She doesn't have to do it.**

Modal verbs	Czech eqv.	Use
can / can't		ability (=>schopnost): Sue can dance quite well but she can't sing. permission (=>povolení): You can't come in here. Can we go home now?
must		necessity/obligation (=> nutnost/povinnost): You must clean your room.
need not		lack of necessity (=> není to nutné) He needn't come in person, he can send an email.
have to		necessity/obligation (=> nutnost, povinnost): You can't turn right. You have to turn left.
don't have to		it's not necessary (=> není to nutné): We don't have to arrive on time.
mustn't		you can't do st. because it's prohibited (=> zákaz): You must keep it a secret. You mustn't tell anyone.
should /shouldn't		something is/isn't a good idea to do (to give advice, to make a suggestion) (=> rada, návrh): You look tired. You should go to bed.
would / wouldn't		a hypothetical action or event in the present (=>hypotetická možnost v přítomnosti): I would go there if I had time. (But I don't have it.)
may / may not might / might not (carries less probability than "may")		it's (not) possible (=>možnost): It may/might be true. I'm not sure whether I can lend you any money. I may not have enough.

