

### 3.7 Модальные глаголы

(from «Лекции по грамматике английского языка. Часть 1 Морфология»  
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Модальные глаголы сами не обозначают действие, а лишь указывают на отношение говорящего к действию.

Модальные глаголы можно условно разделить на 3 группы:

1. глаголы, выражающие **необходимость, долженствование**:

*must, have to, be to, should, ought to, need*

2. глаголы, выражающие **физическую возможность** совершения действия:

*can (could), be able to*

3. глаголы, выражающие разрешение:

*may (might), can, be allowed to, be permitted to*

Модальные глаголы не употребляются самостоятельно, а только в сочетании с инфинитивом смыслового глагола.

*He can do it himself.*

Модальные глаголы не имеют всех форм, которые имеют другие глаголы. Глаголы *can* и *may* имеют форму настоящего времени и форму прошедшего времени: *can - could, may - might*. Глаголы *must, ought to* и *need* имеют только форму настоящего времени.

Более полная информация об употреблении модальных глаголов дана в таблице 4:

Таблица 4 – Модальные глаголы

глагол	значение	настоящее/ будущее время	прошедшее время
<b>may</b>	(1) polite request (only with I or we)	<i>May I borrow your pen?</i>	
	(2) formal permission	<i>You may leave the room.</i>	
	(3) less than 50%	— <i>Where's John? He may be at the library.</i>	<i>He may have been at the library.</i>
<b>might</b>	(1) less than 50%	— <i>Where's John? He might be at the</i>	<i>He might have been at the library.</i>
	(2) polite request (rare)	<i>Might I borrow your pen?</i>	

<b>should</b>	(1) advisability	<i>I should study tonight.</i>	<i>I should have studied last night, but I didn't.</i>
	(2) 90% certainty (expectation)	<i>She should do well on the test.</i> (future only, not present)	<i>She should have done well on the test.</i>
<b>ought to</b>	(1) advisability	<i>I ought to study tonight.</i>	<i>I ought to have studied last night, but I didn't.</i>
	(2) 90% certainty (expectation)	<i>She ought to do well on the test.</i> (future only, not present)	<i>She ought to have done well on the test.</i>
<b>had better</b>	(1) advisability with threat of bad result	<i>You had better be on time, or we will leave without you.</i>	
<b>be supposed to</b>	(1) expectation	<i>Class is supposed to begin at 10:00.</i>	
	(2) unfulfilled expectation		<i>Class was supposed to begin at 10:00, but it didn't begin until 10:15.</i>
<b>must</b>	(1) strong necessity	<i>I must go to class today.</i>	<i>(I had to go to class yesterday.)</i>
	(2) prohibition (negative)	<i>You must not open that door.</i>	
	(3) 95% certainty	<i>Mary isn't in class. She must be sick.</i> (present only)	<i>Mary must have been sick yesterday.</i>
<b>have to</b>	(1) necessity	<i>I have to go to class today.</i>	<i>I had to go to class yesterday.</i>
	(2) lack of necessity (negative)	<i>I don't have to go to class today.</i>	<i>I didn't have to go to class yesterday.</i>
<b>have got to</b>	(1) necessity	<i>I have got to go to class today.</i>	<i>(I had to go to class yesterday.)</i>

<b>will</b>	(1) 100% certainty	<i>He will be here at 6:00.</i> (future only)	
	(2) willingness	— <i>The phone's ringing. I'll get it.</i>	
	(3) polite request	<i>Will you please pass the salt?</i>	
<b>be going to</b>	(1) 100% certainty (prediction)	<i>He is going to be here at 6:00.</i> (future only)	
	(2) definite plan (intention)	<i>I'm going to paint my Bedroom.</i> (future only)	
	(3) unfulfilled intention		<i>I was going to paint my room, but I didn't have time.</i>
<b>can</b>	(1) ability/ possibility	<i>I can run fast.</i>	<i>I could run fast when I was a child, but now I can't.</i>
	(2) informal permission	<i>You can use my car tomorrow.</i>	
	(3) informal polite request	<i>Can I borrow your pen?</i>	
	(4) impossibility (negative only)	<i>That can't be true!</i>	<i>That can't have been true!</i>
<b>could</b>	(1) past ability		<i>I could run fast when I was a child.</i>
	(2) polite request	<i>Could I borrow your pen?</i> <i>Could you help me?</i>	
	(3) suggestion (affirmative only)	— <i>I need help in math.</i> <i>You could talk to your teacher.</i>	<i>You could have talked to your teacher.</i>
	(4) less than 50% certainty	— <i>Where's John? He could be at home.</i>	<i>He could have been at home.</i>
	(5) impossibility (negative only)	<i>That couldn't be true!</i>	<i>That couldn't have been true!</i>

<b>be able to</b>	(1) ability	<i>I am able to help you. I will be able to help you.</i>	<i>I was able to help him.</i>
<b>would</b>	(1) polite request	<i>Would you please pass the salt? Would you mind if I left early?</i>	
	(2) preference	<i>I would rather go to the park than stay home.</i>	<i>I would rather have gone to the park.</i>
	(3) repeated action in the past		<i>When I was a child, I would visit my grandparents every weekend.</i>
	(4) polite for "want" (with like)	<i>I would like an apple, please.</i>	
	(5) unfulfilled wish		<i>I would have liked a cookie, but there were none in the house.</i>
<b>used to</b>	(1) repeated action in the past		<i>I used to visit my grandparents every weekend.</i>
	(2) past situation that no longer exists		<i>I used to live in Spain. Now I live in Korea.</i>
<b>shall</b>	(1) polite question to make a suggestion	<i>Shall I open the window?</i>	
	(2) future with "I" or "we" as subject	<i>I shall arrive at nine. (will = more common)</i>	

Модальные глаголы не имеют неличных форм – инфинитива, причастия и герундия.

Инфинитив, следующий за этими глаголами, употребляется без частицы **to**. Исключением являются модальные глаголы, частица **to** в которых является их частью

*You may take it  
I must go there.*

Но: *You **ought to** meet him; he's really nice.*  
*He **has to** work hard.*

В 3-м лице единственного числа настоящего времени модальные глаголы не имеют окончания **-s**:

*He **can** do it. He **may** take it. He **must** go there. He **ought to** help him.*

Модальные глаголы являются сильными глаголами – т.е. самостоятельно, без вспомогательных глаголов, образуют вопросительные и отрицательные предложения.

***Can** you do it? **May** I take it? **Must** he go there?*

В разговорной речи в отрицательной форме обычно употребляются следующие сокращения:

cannot = can't

could not = couldn't

might not = mightn't

must not = mustn't

ought not = oughtn't

need not = needn't

should not = shouldn't