



# 1<sup>st</sup> semester



✓ **Modals** are helping verbs that do not change according to the tense and are always in the base form.

*I can*

*He can*

*They will*

*She must*

✓ They are followed by the main verb, which is always in the base form.

*I can jump*

*She should try*

*It may rain*

# MODALS

Can

Can't

Could

May

Might

Mustn't

Must

Should

Shall

Needn't

Will

Would

Ought to

✓ **Semi-Modals** are helping verbs that are used like modals but they change according to the tense or the subject.

*I have to He has to We had to It didn't have to*

✓ They are followed by the main verb, which is always in the base form.

*I have to study hard.*

*He has to try more.*

# SEMI-MODALS

Be able to

Ought to

Have to

Need to

## Word order:

SUBJECT

MODAL or  
SEMI-  
MODAL

MAIN  
VERB

REST OF  
THE  
SENTENCE

My dog

can

play

the

piano!



# CAN 1. Ability in the present or future

***She **can** ride a horse.***



***She **can't** ride a bike***





# CAN

## 2. Requests

***Can*** you help  
me with my  
***French***  
homework?  
***Yes, of***  
***course.***



**CAN**

**3. To ask or give permission**

***Can I go  
swimming?  
No, you  
can't.  
It's not safe.***



# CAN'T

1. To express negative assumption i.e. to show you don't believe that something is true.

*They **can't** be at work.*



# COULD

## 1. Ability in the past

***I could** sail very well when  
I was young.*



**COULD**

## 2. Polite requests

***Could*** you please be quiet?



**COULD**

### 3. Suggestions

***We **could** follow this path to the top of the hill.***



**COULD**

## 4. Possibility

***Sylvia and Tom are late. They **could** be stuck in traffic.***



**MAY**

## 1. Possibility

***There is a lot of traffic.  
I **may** be a little late for the  
meeting.***





**MAY**

**2. I / We - To  
ask for permission  
(formal)**

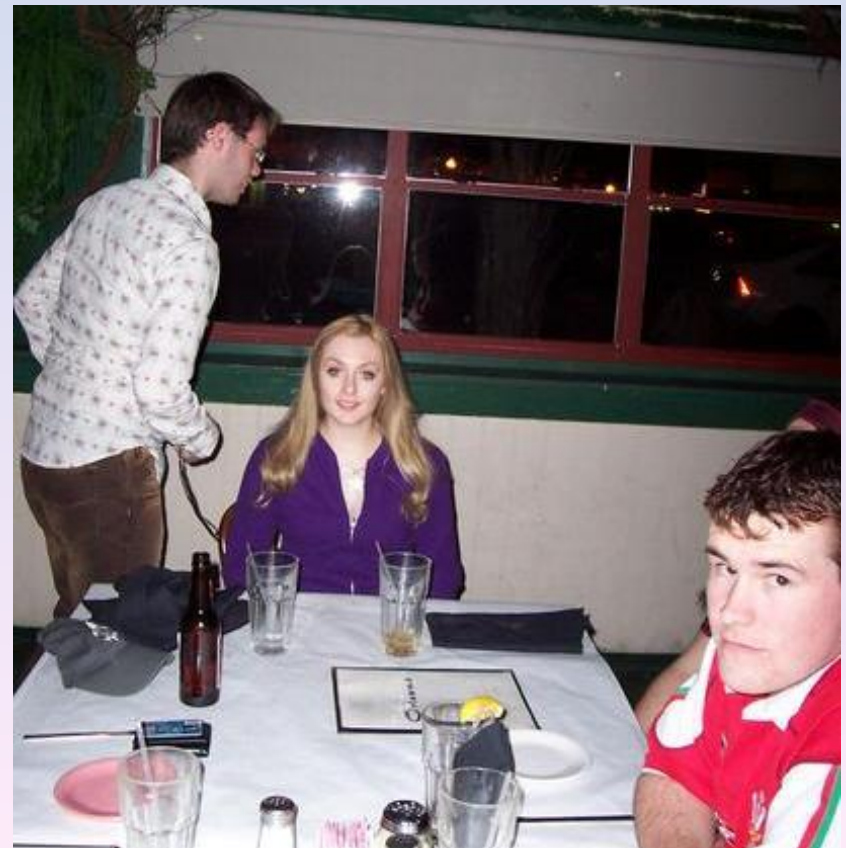
***May I have  
a look at  
this report?***



**MAY**

### 3. To give (or not) permission

***Yes, Robert,  
you **may**  
be excused.***



**MIGHT**

## 4. Possibility

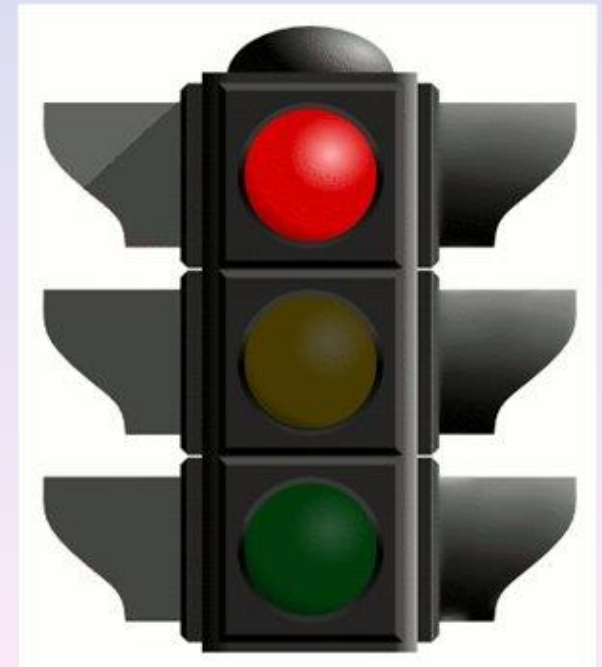
*We **might** reschedule the meeting for Tuesday.*



**MUST**

Obligation, necessity in  
the present or future

*You **must**  
stop when  
the light is  
red!*



**MUST**

2. Positive logical  
assumption and  
certainty

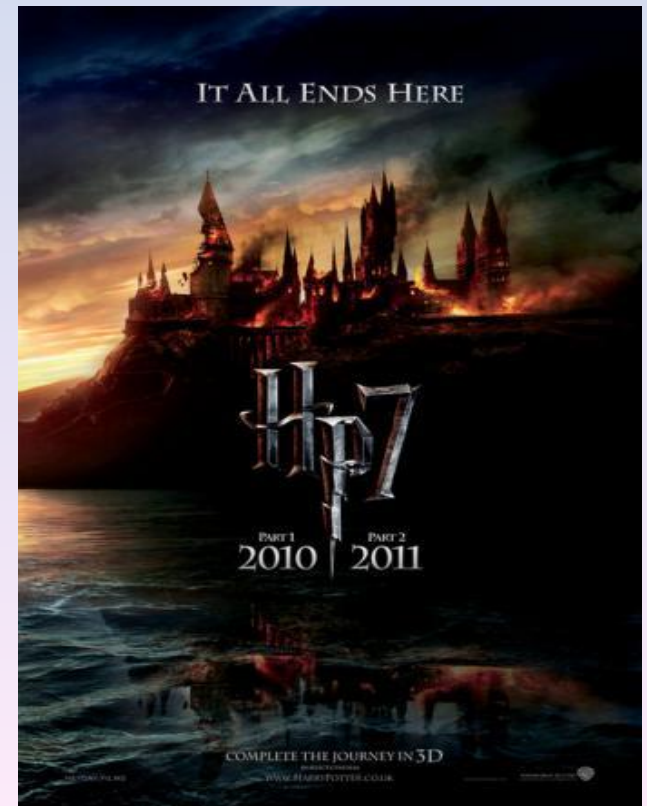
*They **must** be very rich!*



**MUST**

### 3. Suggestions, recommendations

**You *must* see  
Harry Potter 7.  
It's great!**



**MUST**

## 1. Prohibition

***You ~~mustn't~~  
park here!***



**SHOULD  
OUGHT TO**

1. To give advice or  
opinions

*You **should** always wear  
your lifejacket when you  
go white water rafting.*





**SHOULD**

**2.To ask for advice**

***Should I change my hairstyle?***



**SHOULD**

## 3.I / We - Polite suggestions

*You look cold.  
**Should** I put  
the heating  
on?*



**SHOULD  
OUGHT TO**

4. To show that we expect something to happen

*They **should** be here any minute now.*



# WILL 1. To show a future certainty

*It's Bob's  
birthday  
next Sunday.  
He **will** be six  
years old.*



**WILL**

## 2. Predictions

*You **will** earn a lot of money!*



**WILL**

### 3. On-the-spot decisions

*It's cold.  
I **will** close  
the window.*



**WILL**

## 4. Requests

***Will you help me carve the turkey please?***



**WILL**

## 5. Offers and promises

***I will always love you.***





**WOULD**

# 1. Polite requests and offers

***Would** you reach that bag for me, please?*



**WOULD**

## 2. Repeated actions in the past

*When we were young,  
Grandma  
**would**  
always  
tell us  
stories.*



**SHALL**

1. I / We - to make polite suggestions (interrogative form)

***Shall I help you cross the street?***



**NEEDN'T**

1. To show that something  
is not necessary

*The farmer  
**needn't** buy  
any eggs.*



# BE ABLE TO

## 1. To show ability in all tenses

***She **was able to** climb to the top of the mountain.***



**HAVE TO  
NEED TO**

**1. Obligation or  
necessity in all tenses**

***A doctor **has to** wear  
a uniform  
at work.***



**DON'T HAVE TO**  
**DON'T NEED TO**

1. To show necessity in  
all tenses

***He doesn't have  
to buy any fish.***

