



2nd semester

Advanced

Lesson 21



Topic 21: Modal verbs. Complex sentences.

Modals are different from normal verbs:

- 1: They don't use an 's' for the third person singular.
- 2: They make questions by inversion ('she can go' becomes 'can she go?').
- 3: They are followed directly by the infinitive of another verb (without 'to').

can could could have must need
must have may might would would
have shall need have to ought to
dare should should have will be
able to forced will have to allowed

Modal	Concept	Example
CAN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Ability ◇ Permission ◇ Offers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alex can swim. • Can I borrow this? ('May' is also used.) • Can I help you?
COULD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Possibility ◇ Past ability ◇ Permission ◇ Requests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That story could be true – who knows! • Charlie could swim at the age of four. • Could I use your phone please? • Could you pass me the salt please?
BE ABLE TO*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My brother is able to find his way home.
HAVE TO*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Obligation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have to stop at a red light. That's the law. • Children have to arrive on time at school.
MAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Possibility ◇ Permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It may rain today – it's a bit cloudy. • May I borrow your dictionary?
MIGHT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Slight possibility ◇ Past form of 'may' in reported speech. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We might win a prize but I doubt it. • I said it might rain – but I was wrong.
MUST	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Obligation ◇ Logical deduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airline officials must wear a uniform. • The heating is off. You must be cold.
MUSTN'T	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Prohibition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You mustn't tell your mother - it's a surprise.
SHOULD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Advice ◇ Logical deduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should take your medicine regularly. • He's revised so he should pass the test.
OUGHT TO*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Advice ◇ Logical deduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You ought to write to your grandmother. • 30€ ought to be enough for the taxi.
SHALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Future tense auxiliary ◇ Offers/suggestions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I shall be in London on Friday (or I'll be...) • Shall I order a taxi?
WILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Future tense auxiliary ◇ Invitations/offers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ticket will cost about 50€. • Will you join us for coffee?



Choose the appropriate answer.



1. The new student be German, he doesn't speak German fluently.

- a) shouldn't b) mustn't c) can't**

2. Someone's knocking at the door. It be James.

- a) ought to b) must c) can't**

3. You buy a dictionary; there are a lot in class.

- a) may not b) mustn't c) needn't**

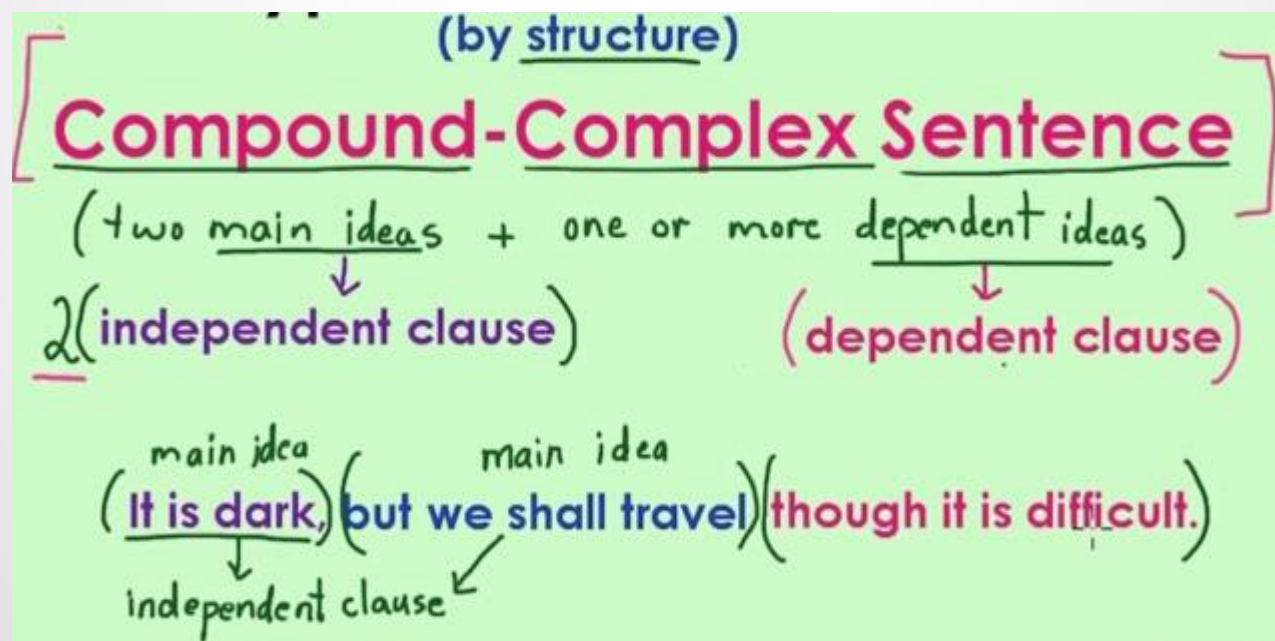
4. People fasten seat belts when travelling by car.

- a) must b) can c) should**

5. Dad is taking a nap; you make so much noise, children.

- a) mustn't b) might not c) needn't**

A complex sentence is a sentence that contains an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. An independent clause can stand alone as a sentence, but a dependent clause even though it has a subject and a verb cannot stand alone.



Find the appropriate endings to the sentences:

1. Dad put more wood on the fire ...	a) that he has made a mistake.
2. How it happened ...	b) I will be ready.
3. It is strange ...	c) when we met.
4. By the time you come ...	d) since it was very cold.
5. Do you remember the day ...	e) which was on TV last night?
6. Is that the woman ...	f) why Cherie should be angry with me?
7. Can you think of any reason ...	g) whom we saw at the cinema yesterday?
8. Did you see the film ...	h) is not clear to anyone.
9. He is the person for ...	i) where we stayed in when we were in London.
10. Here is the photo of the hotel ...	j) whom very few people feel much sympathy.