

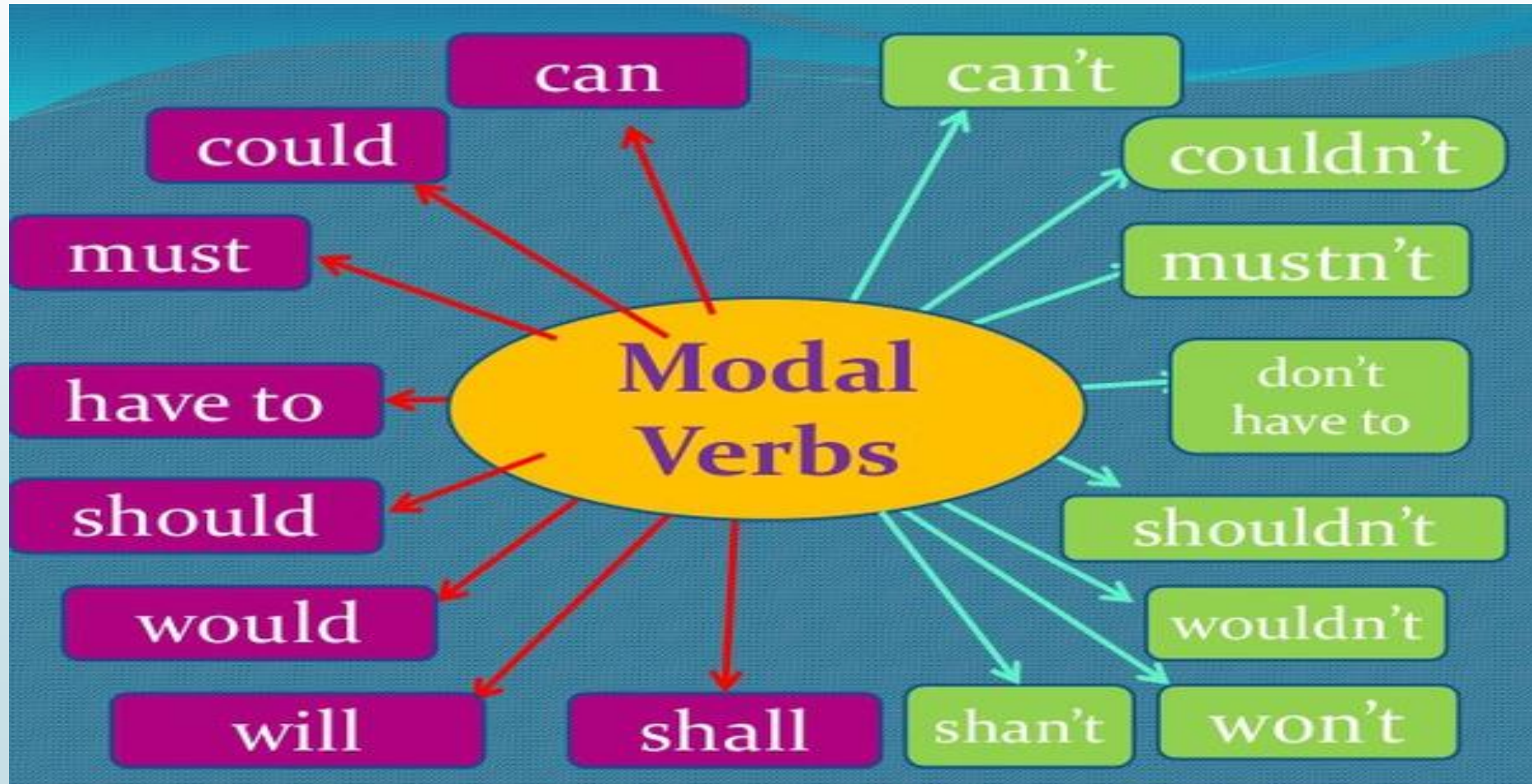


ACADEMIC LYCEUM “INTERNATIONAL HOUSE – TASHKENT”

2nd semester
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Topic 38: Solutions. Advanced. Unit 7

Talking about ability.



TYPE and USE	Modal Verb	Examples
ABILITY	Can, Could	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I can speak English. • He could run 10 km, now he has lost practise.
PERMISSION	Can, Could, May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can't go out tonight. • May I sit here? • Could you help me?
ADVICE	Should	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You should do your homework. • I shouldn't drink alcohol.
OBLIGATION	Must, Have to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People mustn't smoke in class. • We don't have to go to the party if we don't want to.
POSSIBILITY	Might, May, Could, Can	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It might rain today. • Rachel may come to the party if she feels better.



MODALS OF ABILITY

MODAL

USAGE

PRESENT

EXAMPLE

CAN

General or specific ability

CAN/CAN'T

Richard **can** speak French fluently.

BE ABLE TO

General or specific ability

**AM/ARE/IS
(NOT) ABLE TO**

Max **was able to** swim.



MODAL

USAGE

PAST

EXAMPLE

COULD

Could - general ability

COULD

My sister **could** swim when I was six.

Couldn't - general or specific

COULDN'T

I **couldn't** play the piano when she was five.

BE ABLE TO

General or specific ability

**WAS/WERE
(NOT) ABLE TO**

Jennifer **was not able to** dance when she was eight.

MANAGED TO

Specific ability

MANAGED TO

Police finally **managed to** catch the culprit.

MODAL

USAGE

FUTURE

EXAMPLE

CAN

General or specific ability

CAN/CAN'T

I **can** help you tomorrow.

BE ABLE TO

General ability.

**WILL / WON'T BE
ABLE TO**

Journalists **will be able to** preview the exhibition tomorrow.



MODAL VERBS

CAN



ABILITY
(present)

I can speak four languages.



POSSIBILITY
(present)

Alcohol can cause cancer.



PERMISSION
(Informal)

Can I use your book, please?



REQUEST
(Informal)

Can you make me coffee?



OFFER
(help)

Can I help you?



CAN NOT
(not allowed)

You can not (can't) smoke here.

COULD



ABILITY
(past)

He could play football when he was a kid.



POSSIBILITY
(past)

A lot of crime could be prevented.



PERMISSION
(polite)

Could I take your book, please?



REQUEST
(polite)

Could you lend me this book?



SUGGESTION

I could help you with English.



CONDITIONAL OF CAN

If you called me, I could find you some suggestion.

EXERCISES WITH MODAL VERBS

1. When Tom was 16, he was a fast runner. He _____ run 200 metres in 22 seconds.

a) Can b) Could c) Can't d) Couldn't

2. I'm afraid I _____ come to your party next Saturday.

a) Can b) Could c) Can't d) Couldn't

3. I'm not in a hurry. I've got plenty of time. I _____ wait.

a) Can b) Could c) Can't d) Couldn't

4. I was feeling terribly sick yesterday. I _____ eat anything.

a) Can b) Could c) Can't d) Couldn't

5. Can you speak loudly, please? I _____ hear you very well.

a) Can b) Could c) Can't d) Couldn't

6. "You look exhausted." "Yes, I _____ sleep last night.

a) Can b) Could c) Can't d) Couldn't

