

# Grammar: Class X

## Modal verbs

The modal verbs include *can, must, may, might, will, would, should*. They are used with other verbs to express ability, obligation, possibility, and so on. Below is a list showing the most useful modals and their most common meanings:

Modal	Meaning	Example
can	<i>to express ability</i>	I <i>can</i> speak a little Russian.
can	<i>to request permission</i>	<i>Can</i> I open the window?
may	<i>to express possibility</i>	I <i>may</i> be home late.
may	<i>to request permission</i>	<i>May</i> I sit down, please?
must	<i>to express obligation</i>	I <i>must</i> go now.
must	<i>to express strong belief</i>	She <i>must</i> be over 90 years old.
should	<i>to give advice</i>	You <i>should</i> stop smoking.
would	<i>to request or offer</i>	<i>Would</i> you like a cup of tea?

## Practice Exercises For Modals

### 1.Fill in the blanks with correct modals.

- 1) He knew that he \_\_\_\_\_ (Would/ must) be able to reach office in time.
- 2) You \_\_\_\_\_ (dare/ could) not enter my house again.
- 3) I thought he \_\_\_\_\_ (should/ would) be at school.
- 4) Raman \_\_\_\_\_ (can/ should) speak in two voices.
- 5) I \_\_\_\_\_ (can't/ couldn't) write what you spoke.
- 6) You \_\_\_\_\_ (should/ can) have told me earlier.
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ (Can/ Should) i get something to drink, please? I am very thirsty.
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_ (Can/ Should) I use your car, please?
- 9) You \_\_\_\_\_ (can/ would) go in now and meet the doctor.
- 10) I \_\_\_\_\_ (would/ should) love to teach these children.
- 11) I \_\_\_\_\_ (could/ can) eat 5 bananas at a time when i was young.
- 12) You \_\_\_\_\_ (must/ will) see the lawyer at once.
- 13) \_\_\_\_\_ (May/ Might) god protect you from the pain and agony.
- 14) My mother \_\_\_\_\_ (can/ could) watch T.V for hours even now.
- 15) It \_\_\_\_\_ (would/ may) be cold in the evening, who knows?

### 2.Fill in the blanks with the right word out of those given in brackets against each sentence:

1. .... she works hard, she will pass. (*would, should*)
2. I .....prefer to keep quiet. (*would, should*)
3. Work hard lest you ..... fail. (*would, should*)
4. I am sure we .....cross the forest easily. (*will, shall*)
5. ....you please stop talking so loudly. (*will, shall*)
6. If I were you, I ..... not do it. (*would, should*)
7. ....you please lend me your scooter? (*would, should*)
8. I ..... carry out your orders at all costs. (*would, should*)
9. I .....like to inform you of my inability to attend the meeting. (*would, should*)
10. Walk carefully lest you .....fall down. (*would, should*)
11. He ..... rather resign than submit to injustice. (*would, should*)
12. You ..... not ask me to do anything against my will. (*should, will*)
13. You ..... catch a cold, if you go out in the rain. (*shall, will*)
14. I ..... not budge an inch from the righteous path. (*shall, will*)
15. You .....not go in for that old car. (*would, should*)

### 3.Fill up the blanks with should, must, mustn't, have to, or ought to:

1. You ..... respect your elders.
2. He ..... be more careful in the future.
3. You ..... to take regular exercise.
4. She is headstrong. She ..... have her way in everything.
5. You ..... not tell lies. It is not good for you.
6. She ..... to develop good manners.
7. She ..... contact the doctor at once.
8. They ..... to have been more generous.
9. Teachers ..... have affection for their students.
10. Mohit, you ..... waste a minute now. Your examination is at hand.
11. Varun, you ..... squander your parents' hard-earned money.
12. The students ..... be in school at nine a.m.
13. You ..... disobey the laws of the land.
14. You ..... mend your ways before you criticise others.
15. You ..... disobey your parents.

### 4.Fill in the blanks with the right word out of 'Must', 'Ought', 'used to', 'need', 'needn't', 'dare':

1. How ..... you say so?
2. She ..... have been ill.
3. You ..... worry about the child. He will recover soon.
4. .... you disobey your father.
5. Do I ..... to come here again?
6. You ..... to have obeyed your teacher.
7. He ..... not come tomorrow. We are going out on a picnic.
8. I ..... to have been there this time.
9. Gandhi ..... spin every day.
10. You ..... engage a tutor for your son.

### 5.Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:

*will, shall, should, can, could, must, ought to, need.*

- (i) I ..... go there even if it rains.
- (ii) You have burnt the midnight oil. You ..... win a scholarship.
- (iii) If you have a ticket, you ..... go inside.
- (iv) I ..... not come yesterday since I was too busy.
- (v) We ..... go to the station by taxi; it is getting late.
- (vi) You ..... not bring your umbrella. I'll lend you mine.
- (vii) Work hard lest you ..... fail.
- (viii) ..... he brings the dinner now?