

Modal Verbs

might/might not

could/could not

would/would not

must/must not

may/may not

will/will not

ought/ought not

can/cannot

should/should not

shall/shall not

Modal verbs can have many uses. In most cases, they work with another verb to describe the possibility of something happening or to describe to what degree of certainty something is known.



The netball team might win the tournament.



Humpty Dumpty could fall off the wall.

Modal verbs can also express the obligation for someone to do something.



You must go and see the headteacher.

Modal verbs can also express an ability to perform the action of another verb.



I cannot play the ukulele yet but I am having lessons.

Yasmin can expertly dribble around defenders.



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