

Application and Reasoning

Step 2: Using Modal Verbs

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 5: (5G4.1c) [Using modal verbs to indicate degrees of possibility](#)

English Year 5: (5G4.1c) [Indicating degrees of possibility using modal verbs \[for example, might, should, will, must\]](#)

Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Application)

Developing Write a simple sentence using a given common modal verb correctly (can, could, should, may, shall, might, must, will, would).

Expected Write a sentence using a given common modal or semi-modal verb ('ought to' and 'used to') correctly.

Greater Depth Write a more complex sentence using a given modal verb correctly.

Including modal verbs used in the past tense, in the negative or for expression, such as, 'dare to', 'need to', 'had better' and 'rather'.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Application)

Developing Substituting the given common modal verb in a simple sentence for one that will alter the certainty or possibility.

Expected Substituting the given common modal or semi-modal verb in a sentence for one that will alter the certainty or possibility.

Greater Depth Substituting the given modal verb in a complex sentence for one that will alter the certainty or possibility. Including modal verbs used in the past tense, in the negative or for expression, such as, 'dare to', 'need to', 'had better' and 'rather'.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Reasoning)

Developing Explain how replacing the common modal verb in a simple sentence changes the certainty or possibility.

Expected Explain how replacing the common modal or semi-modal verb in a sentence changes the certainty or possibility.

Greater Depth Explain how replacing the modal verb in a complex sentence changes the certainty or possibility. Including modal verbs used in the past tense, in the negative or for expression, such as, 'dare to', 'need to', 'had better' and 'rather'.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

Did you like this resource? Don't forget to [review](#) it on our website.

Using Modal Verbs

Using Modal Verbs

1a. Write a sentence using the modal verb 'might'.



A

1b. Write a sentence using the modal verb 'will'.



A

2a. Rewrite the sentence below to make it less certain.

Robert will be at the wedding.



A

2b. Rewrite the sentence below to make it more certain.

The decorator may paint the room yellow.



A

3a. How would changing the modal verb 'can' to 'may' alter the meaning in the sentence below?

The engineer can fix the damaged machine.



R

3b. How would changing the modal verb 'should' to 'must' alter the meaning in the sentence below?

We should help the others.



R

Using Modal Verbs

Using Modal Verbs

4a. Write a sentence using the modal verb 'could'.



A

4b. Write a sentence using the modal verb 'can'.



A

5a. Rewrite the sentence below to make it more certain.

Katie isn't feeling well so she should stay in bed.



A

5b. Rewrite the sentence below to make it less certain.

After all the planning, it will be the best party ever.



A

6a. How would changing the modal verb 'will' to 'might' alter the meaning in the sentence below?

The football team will score the winning goal.



R

6b. How would changing the modal verb 'ought to' to 'must' alter the meaning in the sentence below?

If you want a good seat, we ought to get there early.



R

Using Modal Verbs

Using Modal Verbs

7a. Write a sentence using the modal verb 'should not'.

7b. Write a sentence using the modal verb 'had better'.



A



A

8a. Rewrite the sentence below to make it more certain.

8b. Rewrite the sentence below to make it less certain.

The developers are getting impatient so the protestors need to be careful or they could end up getting hurt.

We must go soon if we want to catch the train because it's sure to be busy and we will not get a seat.



A



A

9a. How would changing the modal verb 'must' to 'had better' alter the meaning in the sentence below?

9b. How would changing the modal verb 'ought to' to 'will' alter the meaning in the sentence below?

It looks like rain today; you must take an umbrella if you don't want to get caught in a downpour.

I ought to go shopping because I have found a new job and I should make sure I look the part.



R



R

Application and Reasoning Using Modal Verbs

Developing

- 1a. Any grammatically correct sentence including the word might, for example: We might go to the cinema.
- 2a. Replacing 'will' for might, may, could, should or ought to.
- 3a. It is no longer certain that the engineer will fix the machine.

Expected

- 4a. Any grammatically correct sentence including the word could, for example: Jenny could play the violin very well.
- 5a. Replacing 'should' for shall, must or will.
- 6a. It is no longer certain that the football team will score the winning goal.

Greater Depth

- 7a. Any grammatically correct sentence including the words should not, for example: I said you should not have gone that way, now we are lost.
- 8a. Replacing 'need to' for must, and 'could' for will or shall.
- 9a. It is no longer a command, but a suggestion.

Application and Reasoning Using Modal Verbs

Developing

- 1b. Any grammatically correct sentence including the word will, for example: It will be a lovely day tomorrow.
- 2b. Replacing 'may' for shall, must or will.
- 3b. It changes the necessity. It is now imperative that they help.

Expected

- 4b. Any grammatically correct sentence including the word can, for example: We can meet outside the swimming pool.
- 5b. Replacing 'will' for might, may, could, should or ought to.
- 6b. It changes the necessity. It is now necessary that they get there early.

Greater Depth

- 7b. Any grammatically correct sentence including the words had better, for example: You had better hurry up or you will make everyone late.
- 8b. Replacing 'must' for should, had better, need to or ought to, and 'will' for may, could or might.
- 9b. It changes the certainty. They will now definitely be going shopping.