

# Modal Verbs

Modal verbs are used to change the meaning of other verbs in a sentence. They are placed directly before the main verb.

Modal  
Verb

Action  
Verb



I **can** **play** the piano.

When he was training, he **could** **swim** 6 laps of the pool in 8 minutes!



**Modal  
Verbs that  
indicate  
ability:**

can

could

can

could

may

might

will

should

would

must

Modal verbs that indicate intent:

I **might go** shopping on Saturday.

I **will go** shopping on Saturday.

Modal verbs that indicate likelihood:

She **should arrive** by 5pm.

She **must arrive** by 5pm.

How do the modal verbs change the meaning of the sentences?



can

could

may

might

will

should

would

must

Modal verbs that indicate possibility:

It **may** **rain** this afternoon.

It **might** **rain** this afternoon.

It **could** **rain** this afternoon.

Modal verbs that indicate obligation:

You **should** **visit** the dentist.

You **must** **visit** the dentist.

How do the modal verbs change the meaning of the sentences?



can

could

may

might

will

should

would

must



I might \_\_\_\_\_



We will \_\_\_\_\_



I should \_\_\_\_\_