

Modal Verbs: can, can't, must, mustn't — Lesson 3

A1 Beginner ·
Lesson 3

Student Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 56

Exercise 1 — True or False? (8 points)

Read each statement. Write **True** or **False**.

1. "Must" is used to say something is necessary or required.

Answer: _____

2. "Can't" means it is forbidden to do something.

Answer: _____

3. We use "mustn't" when something is not allowed.

Answer: _____

4. "She can to swim" is a correct sentence.

Answer: _____

5. "Can" is used for all subjects without changing its form.

Answer: _____

6. "Mustn't" is the same as "don't have to".

Answer: _____

7. "You must stop at a red light" is an example of an obligation.

Answer: _____

8. "I can't fly" means flying is forbidden for the speaker.

Answer: _____

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb. Circle your answer.

1. Nurses ____ work very long hours.

(can / must / mustn't)

2. You ____ use your mobile phone in the cinema.

(can / must / mustn't)

3. My nephew ____ already count to twenty — he's three!

(can / must / mustn't)

4. I ____ find a signal here. The reception is terrible.

(can't / must / mustn't)

5. You ____ declare all items at customs.

(can / must / mustn't)

6. She ___ speak Japanese — she only started learning last month.
(can't / must / mustn't)
7. Cyclists ___ ride on the pavement.
(can / mustn't / must)
8. He ___ name every country in Europe — it's impressive!
(can / must / can't)

Exercise 3 — Matching (8 points)

Match each sentence (1–8) to the correct meaning (a–h). Write the letter.

Sentences	Meanings
1. He can solve difficult maths problems in his head. ___	A. This is a talent or skill he has developed.
2. You mustn't take photographs inside the gallery. ___	B. The rule here is clear — it is not permitted.
3. I can't eat spicy food. ___	C. This is something the speaker is unable to do or tolerate.
4. Passengers must fasten their seatbelts. ___	D. This is a safety requirement on board.
5. She can speak very clearly in public. ___	E. She is able to do this with confidence.
6. You mustn't open this door during the flight. ___	F. Opening it is forbidden for safety reasons.
7. We can't afford a holiday this year. ___	G. It is not possible for them — they do not have the money.
8. You must register before the course begins. ___	H. This step is required — it cannot be skipped.

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

1. You ___ swim here — there are strong currents.
(can / must / mustn't)
2. My aunt ___ bake amazing cakes from memory.
(can / must / mustn't)
3. Athletes ___ follow the anti-doping rules.
(can / must / mustn't)
4. He ___ sleep without the light on.
(can't / must / mustn't)
5. You ___ bring animals into this building.
(can / must / mustn't)
6. She ___ type over 100 words per minute.
(can / can't / must)
7. All players ___ shake hands after the match.
(can / must / mustn't)
8. I ___ come to your party — I have an exam the next day.

(can't / must / mustn't)

Exercise 5 — Word Order (8 points)

Put the words in the correct order to make a sentence.

1. trees / can / tall / very / Cats / climb

2. library / the / shout / in / mustn't / You

3. allergic / eat / can't / nuts / I / — I'm

4. uniform / must / staff / a / wear / All

5. fluently / can / She / three / languages / speak

6. road / the / here / cross / mustn't / You

7. manager / can't / We / the / without / start

8. phone / off / must / You / your / now / turn

Exercise 6 — Word Sort (8 points)

Write each sentence in the correct column of the table below.

Word bank: She can speak in front of large audiences. | My son can already read short books. | He can cook a full meal in twenty minutes. | He can't sleep when it's noisy. | I can't come to the meeting — I'm in another city. | She can't reach the top shelf without a stepladder. | All passengers must have a boarding pass. | Workers must wear protective gloves at all times. | Visitors must sign the safety form on arrival. | You mustn't leave the building during the fire alarm test. | You mustn't run near the swimming pool. | You mustn't park on double yellow lines.

Ability (can)	Inability (can't)	Obligation (must)	Prohibition (mustn't)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

A: I want to visit the old castle. ____ you drive? It's far from the bus stop.

(can / must / mustn't)

B: No, I ____ drive, but I can book a taxi.

(can't / must / mustn't)

A: Do you know if we ____ take photos inside?

(can / must / mustn't)

B: I think you ____ use flash photography, but normal photos are fine.

(can / must / mustn't)

A: And do we ____ book tickets in advance?

(can / must / mustn't)

B: Yes — and you ____ forget to bring your ID. They check it at the entrance.

(can / must / mustn't)

Modal Verbs: can, can't, must, mustn't — Lesson 3 — ANSWER KEY

A1 Beginner ·
Lesson 3

TEACHER ANSWER KEY — Do not distribute to students

Exercise 1 — True or False?

1. "Must" is used to say something is necessary or required.
✓ True
2. "Can't" means it is forbidden to do something.
✓ False
3. We use "mustn't" when something is not allowed.
✓ True
4. "She can to swim" is a correct sentence.
✓ False
5. "Can" is used for all subjects without changing its form.
✓ True
6. "Mustn't" is the same as "don't have to".
✓ False
7. "You must stop at a red light" is an example of an obligation.
✓ True
8. "I can't fly" means flying is forbidden for the speaker.
✓ False

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice

1. Nurses ____ work very long hours.
✓ must
2. You ____ use your mobile phone in the cinema.
✓ mustn't
3. My nephew ____ already count to twenty — he's three!
✓ can
4. I ____ find a signal here. The reception is terrible.
✓ can't
5. You ____ declare all items at customs.
✓ must
6. She ____ speak Japanese — she only started learning last month.

✓ can't

7. Cyclists ____ ride on the pavement.

✓ mustn't

8. He ____ name every country in Europe — it's impressive!

✓ can

Exercise 3 — Matching

1. He can solve difficult maths problems in his head.

✓ This is a talent or skill he has developed.

2. You mustn't take photographs inside the gallery.

✓ The rule here is clear — it is not permitted.

3. I can't eat spicy food.

✓ This is something the speaker is unable to do or tolerate.

4. Passengers must fasten their seatbelts.

✓ This is a safety requirement on board.

5. She can speak very clearly in public.

✓ She is able to do this with confidence.

6. You mustn't open this door during the flight.

✓ Opening it is forbidden for safety reasons.

7. We can't afford a holiday this year.

✓ It is not possible for them — they do not have the money.

8. You must register before the course begins.

✓ This step is required — it cannot be skipped.

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill

1. You ____ swim here — there are strong currents.

✓ mustn't

2. My aunt ____ bake amazing cakes from memory.

✓ can

3. Athletes ____ follow the anti-doping rules.

✓ must

4. He ____ sleep without the light on.

✓ can't

5. You ____ bring animals into this building.

✓ mustn't

6. She ___ type over 100 words per minute.

✓ can

7. All players ___ shake hands after the match.

✓ must

8. I ___ come to your party — I have an exam the next day.

✓ can't

Exercise 5 — Word Order

1. ✓ Cats can climb very tall trees
2. ✓ You mustn't shout in the library
3. ✓ I can't eat nuts — I'm allergic
4. ✓ All staff must wear a uniform
5. ✓ She can speak three languages fluently
6. ✓ You mustn't cross the road here
7. ✓ We can't start without the manager
8. ✓ You must turn off your phone now

Exercise 6 — Word Sort

Ability (can):

- ✓ She can speak in front of large audiences.
- ✓ My son can already read short books.
- ✓ He can cook a full meal in twenty minutes.

Inability (can't):

- ✓ He can't sleep when it's noisy.
- ✓ I can't come to the meeting — I'm in another city.
- ✓ She can't reach the top shelf without a stepladder.

Obligation (must):

- ✓ All passengers must have a boarding pass.
- ✓ Workers must wear protective gloves at all times.
- ✓ Visitors must sign the safety form on arrival.

Prohibition (mustn't):

- ✓ You mustn't leave the building during the fire alarm test.
- ✓ You mustn't run near the swimming pool.

✓ You mustn't park on double yellow lines.

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation

1. A: I want to visit the old castle. ____ you drive? It's far from the bus stop.

✓ can

2. B: No, I ____ drive, but I can book a taxi.

✓ can't

3. A: Do you know if we ____ take photos inside?

✓ can

4. B: I think you ____ use flash photography, but normal photos are fine.

✓ mustn't

5. A: And do we ____ book tickets in advance?

✓ must

6. B: Yes — and you ____ forget to bring your ID. They check it at the entrance.

✓ mustn't