

Modal Verbs: can, can't, must, mustn't — Lesson 4

A1 Beginner ·
Lesson 4

Student Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 56

Exercise 1 — True or False? (8 points)

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

1. "Can" is used to talk about ability and possibility.

Answer: _____

2. The correct negative of "must" is "mustn't have".

Answer: _____

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

Answer: _____

4. "She musts go" is the correct form with he/she/it.

Answer: _____

5. "Can't" means the same as "mustn't".

Answer: _____

6. "You must register" means registering is required.

Answer: _____

7. "I can speak Spanish" means I have this ability.

Answer: _____

8. "Don't have to" and "mustn't" both mean something is forbidden.

Answer: _____

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb. Circle your answer.

1. You ____ keep your valuables in the safe when you leave the room.

(can / must / mustn't)

2. He ____ remember any of the words — he only heard the song once.

(can't / must / mustn't)

3. She ____ identify every bird in this region by its call.

(can / must / mustn't)

4. You ____ lean out of the train window. It is dangerous.

(can / must / mustn't)

5. All members ____ show their card at the entrance.

(can / must / mustn't)

6. I ___ whistle — I've never been able to do it.
(can't / must / mustn't)
7. You ___ take photos here — it's strictly forbidden.
(can / mustn't / must)
8. My grandfather ___ tell wonderful stories from memory.
(can / must / can't)

Exercise 3 — Matching (8 points)

Match each sentence (1–8) to the correct meaning (A–H). Write the letter on the line.

Sentences	Meanings
1. He can identify most wild plants on sight. ____	A. This is something she is physically able to do.
2. You mustn't leave this gate open. ____	B. An injury means this movement is not possible right now.
3. I can't bend my knee properly after the fall. ____	C. This is a strict rule — sharing is not allowed.
4. All visitors must wear a lanyard. ____	D. This is a skill he has built up over time.
5. She can hold her breath for two minutes. ____	E. This is an obligation — it has to be done each week.
6. You mustn't share your login details with anyone. ____	F. This is a requirement — everyone has to do it.
7. We can't get a signal in this part of the building. ____	G. Leaving it open goes against the rules — it is not permitted.
8. You must submit your timesheet every Friday. ____	H. Reception here makes this impossible.

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

1. You ___ make noise after 10pm — the neighbours will complain.
(can / must / mustn't)
2. My daughter ___ do a cartwheel — she learned last week.
(can / must / mustn't)
3. Patients ___ take this medication with food.
(can / must / mustn't)
4. I ___ open this jar — it's too tight.
(can't / must / mustn't)
5. You ___ leave your trolley in the middle of the aisle.
(can / must / mustn't)
6. He ___ recite the whole poem from memory.
(can / can't / must)
7. All drivers ___ carry their licence at all times.
(can / must / mustn't)
8. She ___ see very well without her contact lenses.

(can't / must / mustn't)

Exercise 5 — Word Order (8 points)

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

1. Arabic / can / and / French / She / speak

2. beach / the / on / litter / mustn't / You / drop

3. products / dairy / eat / can't / I

4. protective / must / All / wear / employees / clothing

5. anything / uncle / My / almost / fix / can

6. exit / this / door / an / mustn't / You / use / as

7. today / the / He / meeting / attend / can't

8. age / enter / show / of / must / proof / to / You

Exercise 6 — Word Sort (8 points)

Read each sentence carefully. Write it in the correct column of the table below.

Word bank: My brother ___ juggle five balls at once. | She ___ read a map without getting confused. | They ___ finish the puzzle in under five minutes. | I ___ open the window — it's painted shut. | He ___ lift his arm above shoulder height. | We ___ find a parking space anywhere. | All guests ___ leave their key at reception. | Applicants ___ provide two forms of ID. | Staff ___ log out at the end of every shift. | You ___ walk on the grass in this area. | You ___ talk during the performance. | You ___ bring hot food into the reading room.

Ability	Inability	Obligation	Prohibition
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

A: Is the outdoor pool open in winter? You ___ swim there all year — it's heated.

(can / must / mustn't)

B: Oh nice! And ___ non-members use it too?

(can / must / mustn't)

A: Yes, but they ___ buy a day pass at the front desk.

(can / must / mustn't)

B: Got it. What about changing rooms — I ___ see them on the map.

(can't / must / mustn't)

A: They're on the lower floor. Oh — you ___ bring glass bottles onto the pool deck.

(can / must / mustn't)

B: No problem. And ___ I bring my own towel, or do I have to hire one?

(can / must / mustn't)

Modal Verbs: can, can't, must, mustn't — Lesson 4

A1 Beginner ·
Lesson 4

TEACHER ANSWER KEY — Do not distribute to students

Exercise 1 — True or False?

1. "Can" is used to talk about ability and possibility.
✓ True
2. The correct negative of "must" is "mustn't have".
✓ False
3. We use "mustn't" to say something is not allowed.
✓ True
4. "She musts go" is the correct form with he/she/it.
✓ False
5. "Can't" means the same as "mustn't".
✓ False
6. "You must register" means registering is required.
✓ True
7. "I can speak Spanish" means I have this ability.
✓ True
8. "Don't have to" and "mustn't" both mean something is forbidden.
✓ False

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice

1. You ___ keep your valuables in the safe when you leave the room.
✓ must
2. He ___ remember any of the words — he only heard the song once.
✓ can't
3. She ___ identify every bird in this region by its call.
✓ can
4. You ___ lean out of the train window. It is dangerous.
✓ mustn't
5. All members ___ show their card at the entrance.
✓ must
6. I ___ whistle — I've never been able to do it.

✓ can't

7. You ___ take photos here — it's strictly forbidden.

✓ mustn't

8. My grandfather ___ tell wonderful stories from memory.

✓ can

Exercise 3 — Matching

1. He can identify most wild plants on sight.

✓ D — This is a skill he has built up over time.

2. You mustn't leave this gate open.

✓ G — Leaving it open goes against the rules — it is not permitted.

3. I can't bend my knee properly after the fall.

✓ B — An injury means this movement is not possible right now.

4. All visitors must wear a lanyard.

✓ F — This is a requirement — everyone has to do it.

5. She can hold her breath for two minutes.

✓ A — This is something she is physically able to do.

6. You mustn't share your login details with anyone.

✓ C — This is a strict rule — sharing is not allowed.

7. We can't get a signal in this part of the building.

✓ H — Reception here makes this impossible.

8. You must submit your timesheet every Friday.

✓ E — This is an obligation — it has to be done each week.

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill

1. You ___ make noise after 10pm — the neighbours will complain.

✓ mustn't

2. My daughter ___ do a cartwheel — she learned last week.

✓ can

3. Patients ___ take this medication with food.

✓ must

4. I ___ open this jar — it's too tight.

✓ can't

5. You ___ leave your trolley in the middle of the aisle.

✓ mustn't

6. He ___ recite the whole poem from memory.

✓ can

7. All drivers ___ carry their licence at all times.

✓ must

8. She ___ see very well without her contact lenses.

✓ can't

Exercise 5 — Word Order

1. ✓ She can speak Arabic and French

2. ✓ You mustn't drop litter on the beach

3. ✓ I can't eat dairy products

4. ✓ All employees must wear protective clothing

5. ✓ My uncle can fix almost anything

6. ✓ You mustn't use this door as an exit

7. ✓ He can't attend the meeting today

8. ✓ You must show proof of age to enter

Exercise 6 — Word Sort

Ability:

✓ My brother ___ juggle five balls at once.

✓ She ___ read a map without getting confused.

✓ They ___ finish the puzzle in under five minutes.

Inability:

✓ I ___ open the window — it's painted shut.

✓ He ___ lift his arm above shoulder height.

✓ We ___ find a parking space anywhere.

Obligation:

✓ All guests ___ leave their key at reception.

✓ Applicants ___ provide two forms of ID.

✓ Staff ___ log out at the end of every shift.

Prohibition:

✓ You ___ walk on the grass in this area.

✓ You ___ talk during the performance.

✓ You ____ bring hot food into the reading room.

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation

1. A: Is the outdoor pool open in winter? You ____ swim there all year — it's heated.

✓ can

2. B: Oh nice! And ____ non-members use it too?

✓ can

3. A: Yes, but they ____ buy a day pass at the front desk.

✓ must

4. B: Got it. What about changing rooms — I ____ see them on the map.

✓ can't

5. A: They're on the lower floor. Oh — you ____ bring glass bottles onto the pool deck.

✓ mustn't

6. B: No problem. And ____ I bring my own towel, or do I have to hire one?

✓ can