

Modal Verbs: should, have to, could, might — Lesson 2

A2 Elementary ·
Lesson 2

Student Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 56

Exercise 1 — True or False? (8 points)

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

1. "Should" is stronger than "must" when giving advice.

Answer: _____

2. "Have to" describes obligations that come from outside — rules, jobs, situations.

Answer: _____

3. "Don't have to" means the same as "mustn't".

Answer: _____

4. "Could" can be used to make a polite request.

Answer: _____

5. "Might" means something will definitely happen.

Answer: _____

6. We use "has to" with he, she, and it.

Answer: _____

7. "You shouldn't eat so much sugar" is an example of negative advice.

Answer: _____

8. "Might" and "must" express the same degree of certainty.

Answer: _____

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb. Circle your answer.

1. You ____ try the fish here — the restaurant is famous for it.

(should / might / have to)

2. She ____ finish this report by Friday — her manager is waiting.

(has to / might / should)

3. I ____ be wrong, but I think the meeting is on Thursday.

(might / should / have to)

4. As a child, he ____ hold his breath underwater for three minutes.

(could / should / has to)

5. You ____ bring a gift — your presence is enough.

(don't have to / should / might)

6. ____ you lower the music a little, please?
(Could / Should / Might)
7. We ____ take a jacket — the weather looks uncertain.
(might / have to / could)
8. You ____ check your tyre pressure before a long journey.
(should / might / don't have to)

Exercise 3 — Matching (8 points)

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

Sentences	Meanings
1. You should call her — she sounded upset. ____	A. The speaker is making a polite request.
2. He has to work every weekend this month. ____	B. The speaker is advising against this action.
3. When I was ten, I could run a mile in eight minutes. ____	C. There is no obligation here — it is the learner's choice.
4. It might be faster to take the motorway. ____	D. This is one possibility — the speaker is not certain.
5. You don't have to pay — it's completely free. ____	E. The speaker had this physical ability in the past.
6. Could you repeat that more slowly, please? ____	F. The speaker is recommending an action.
7. You shouldn't leave food out overnight. ____	G. There is a chance this will happen, but it is uncertain.
8. They might cancel the match if it keeps raining. ____	H. An external situation makes this unavoidable.

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

1. You ____ stretch before you run — it helps prevent injury.
(should / might / have to)
2. He ____ wear a tie at his new job. It's the company rule.
(has to / might / should)
3. I'm not sure, but the supermarket ____ be closed on Sundays.
(might / should / have to)
4. When she was a student, she ____ study for twelve hours straight.
(could / should / has to)
5. You ____ bring food — there'll be plenty at the party.
(don't have to / should / might)
6. ____ you help me move this table, please?
(Could / Should / Might)
7. We ____ be late if the traffic is bad.
(might / have to / could)
8. You ____ read the instructions before you start.

(should / might / don't have to)

Exercise 5 — Word Order (8 points)

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

1. after / water / exercising / drink / You / should

2. seven / has / She / work / to / at / start

3. mountains / might / in / It / snow / tonight / the

4. window / please / Could / open / the / you

5. right / decide / You / don't / now / have / to

6. school / before / could / He / started / he / read

7. tired / if / drive / shouldn't / you're / You

8. different / They / move / might / to / city / a

Exercise 6 — Word Sort (8 points)

Read each sentence carefully. Write it in the correct column.

Word bank: You ___ back up your files regularly. | You ___ eat so late at night. | You ___ get a second opinion before deciding. | She ___ submit her expenses by the end of the month. | He ___ travel a lot for his new role. | All staff ___ complete the online training. | As a child, I ___ stay underwater for a long time. | ___ you turn this down a little, please? | When he was younger, he ___ speak some Italian. | We ___ be in the wrong street. | She ___ join us later if she finishes early. | It ___ take longer than expected.

Advice	Obligation	Past Ability / Request	Possibility
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

A: I've had a headache all day. You ___ take a painkiller and rest.

(should / might / have to)

B: I know, but I ___ finish this presentation first.

(have to / should / might)

A: ___ you at least take a short break?

(Could / Should / Might)

B: Maybe. Do you think the headache ___ be from the screen time?

(might / should / have to)

A: Probably. You ___ stare at a screen for six hours straight.

(shouldn't / might / have to)

B: You're right. I ___ stay late today — I'll leave early.

(don't have to / should / might)

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TEACHER ANSWER KEY — Do not distribute to students

Exercise 1 — True or False?

1. "Should" is stronger than "must" when giving advice.
✓ False
2. "Have to" describes obligations that come from outside — rules, jobs, situations.
✓ True
3. "Don't have to" means the same as "mustn't".
✓ False
4. "Could" can be used to make a polite request.
✓ True
5. "Might" means something will definitely happen.
✓ False
6. We use "has to" with he, she, and it.
✓ True
7. "You shouldn't eat so much sugar" is an example of negative advice.
✓ True
8. "Might" and "must" express the same degree of certainty.
✓ False

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice

1. You ___ try the fish here — the restaurant is famous for it.
✓ should
2. She ___ finish this report by Friday — her manager is waiting.
✓ has to
3. I ___ be wrong, but I think the meeting is on Thursday.
✓ might
4. As a child, he ___ hold his breath underwater for three minutes.
✓ could
5. You ___ bring a gift — your presence is enough.
✓ don't have to
6. ___ you lower the music a little, please?

✓ **Could**

7. We ____ take a jacket — the weather looks uncertain.

✓ **might**

8. You ____ check your tyre pressure before a long journey.

✓ **should**

Exercise 3 — Matching

1. You should call her — she sounded upset.

✓ **F — The speaker is recommending an action.**

2. He has to work every weekend this month.

✓ **H — An external situation makes this unavoidable.**

3. When I was ten, I could run a mile in eight minutes.

✓ **E — The speaker had this physical ability in the past.**

4. It might be faster to take the motorway.

✓ **D — This is one possibility — the speaker is not certain.**

5. You don't have to pay — it's completely free.

✓ **C — There is no obligation here — it is the learner's choice.**

6. Could you repeat that more slowly, please?

✓ **A — The speaker is making a polite request.**

7. You shouldn't leave food out overnight.

✓ **B — The speaker is advising against this action.**

8. They might cancel the match if it keeps raining.

✓ **G — There is a chance this will happen, but it is uncertain.**

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill

1. You ____ stretch before you run — it helps prevent injury.

✓ **should**

2. He ____ wear a tie at his new job. It's the company rule.

✓ **has to**

3. I'm not sure, but the supermarket ____ be closed on Sundays.

✓ **might**

4. When she was a student, she ____ study for twelve hours straight.

✓ **could**

5. You ____ bring food — there'll be plenty at the party.

✓ don't have to

6. ___ you help me move this table, please?

✓ Could

7. We ___ be late if the traffic is bad.

✓ might

8. You ___ read the instructions before you start.

✓ should

Exercise 5 — Word Order

1. ✓ You should drink water after exercising

2. ✓ She has to start work at seven

3. ✓ It might snow in the mountains tonight

4. ✓ Could you open the window please

5. ✓ You don't have to decide right now

6. ✓ He could read before he started school

7. ✓ You shouldn't drive if you're tired

8. ✓ They might move to a different city

Exercise 6 — Word Sort

Advice:

✓ You ___ back up your files regularly.

✓ You ___ eat so late at night.

✓ You ___ get a second opinion before deciding.

Obligation:

✓ She ___ submit her expenses by the end of the month.

✓ He ___ travel a lot for his new role.

✓ All staff ___ complete the online training.

Past Ability / Request:

✓ As a child, I ___ stay underwater for a long time.

✓ ___ you turn this down a little, please?

✓ When he was younger, he ___ speak some Italian.

Possibility:

✓ We ___ be in the wrong street.

✓ She ___ join us later if she finishes early.

✓ It ____ take longer than expected.

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation

1. A: I've had a headache all day. You ____ take a painkiller and rest.

✓ **should**

2. B: I know, but I ____ finish this presentation first.

✓ **have to**

3. A: ____ you at least take a short break?

✓ **Could**

4. B: Maybe. Do you think the headache ____ be from the screen time?

✓ **might**

5. A: Probably. You ____ stare at a screen for six hours straight.

✓ **shouldn't**

6. B: You're right. I ____ stay late today — I'll leave early.

✓ **don't have to**