

Modal Verbs: should, have to, could, might — Lesson 3

A2 Elementary ·
Lesson 3

Student Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 56

Exercise 1 — True or False? (8 points)

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

1. "Should" and "must" are equally strong ways to express obligation.

Answer: _____

2. "Don't have to" means something is not necessary — the person has a choice.

Answer: _____

3. "Could" can only be used for past ability — not for requests.

Answer: _____

4. "Might" is used when the speaker is not certain something will happen.

Answer: _____

5. "She have to leave early" is a grammatically correct sentence.

Answer: _____

6. "You shouldn't text while crossing the road" gives advice.

Answer: _____

7. "I might join you later" means the speaker is definitely coming.

Answer: _____

8. "Could you help me?" is a polite way to make a request.

Answer: _____

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb. Circle your answer.

1. You ____ eat more fruit and vegetables — it's good for you.

(should / might / have to)

2. I ____ hand in my assignment by noon tomorrow.

(have to / might / should)

3. She ____ be at home — I saw her car outside.

(might / should / have to)

4. Before the operation, he ____ play tennis every day.

(could / should / has to)

5. You ____ reply immediately — take your time.

(don't have to / should / might)

6. ____ you give me a hand with these bags?
(Could / Should / Might)
7. The train ____ be delayed — there was an incident earlier.
(might / have to / could)
8. You ____ save regularly when you're working on a document.
(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 write a thank-you email after an interview. ____	A. Delivery the next day is possible but not guaranteed.
2. She has to pick her children up from school at three. ____	B. There is no deadline pressure — it is optional today.
3. As a teenager, he could repair a car engine. ____	C. There is a chance this will happen — but it is uncertain.
4. The parcel might arrive tomorrow. ____	D. The speaker is asking for something in a polite way.
5. You don't have to finish it today — tomorrow is fine. ____	E. The speaker is advising against a particular behaviour.
6. Could you send me the file when you get a chance? ____	F. He had this technical skill when he was younger.
7. You shouldn't judge someone before you know the full story. ____	G. An outside commitment means she has no choice.
8. They might open a second branch in the spring. ____	H. This is a good idea that the speaker recommends.

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

1. You ____ switch off your phone during the performance.
(should / might / have to)
2. He ____ submit a weekly report to his supervisor.
(has to / might / should)
3. The café ____ be full at this time — it's very popular.
(might / should / have to)
4. When I lived near the coast, I ____ swim in the sea every morning.
(could / should / has to)
5. You ____ wear a suit — it's a very relaxed event.
(don't have to / should / might)
6. ____ you show me how to use this programme?
(Could / Should / Might)
7. We ____ need more chairs if more people come.
(might / have to / could)
8. You ____ tell someone where you're going when you travel alone.

(should / might / don't have to)

Exercise 5 — Word Order (8 points)

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

1. doctor / call / today / You / should / the

2. month / visa / He / renew / his / next / has / to

3. cancelled / might / tomorrow / The / match / be

4. please / door / Could / the / close / you

5. advance / don't / in / You / book / have / to

6. child / a / beautifully / could / She / sing / as

7. car / in / valuables / leave / shouldn't / your / You

8. worth / timetable / checking / be / It / the / might

Exercise 6 — Word Sort (8 points)

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

Word bank: You ___ keep important documents in a safe place. | You ___ work overtime — it's entirely voluntary. | You ___ go to bed at a regular time every night. | She ___ provide a doctor's certificate if she's absent. | All visitors ___ sign in at the security desk. | He ___ report to the site manager every morning. | In my twenties, I ___ run ten kilometres without stopping. | ___ you hold the door open for me, please? | When I was a student, I ___ survive on very little sleep. | There ___ be delays due to the roadworks. | She ___ get promoted if things go well this quarter. | It ___ be worth applying — you never know.

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

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation (8 points)

Choose the correct modal verb from the brackets.

A: I'm thinking of changing careers. You ___ talk to someone who works in that field first.

(should / might / have to)

B: Good idea. Do you ___ retrain completely, or can you transfer your skills?

(have to / should / might)

A: I'm not sure. I ___ need to do a short course — I'm looking into it.

(might / should / have to)

B: When I changed jobs, I ___ use a lot of what I already knew.

(could / should / have to)

A: That's reassuring. ___ you send me the name of that recruiter you used?

(Could / Should / Might)

B: Of course. And you ___ decide immediately — take your time.

(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" and "must" are equally strong ways to express obligation.
✓ False
2. "Don't have to" means something is not necessary — the person has a choice.
✓ True
3. "Could" can only be used for past ability — not for requests.
✓ False
4. "Might" is used when the speaker is not certain something will happen.
✓ True
5. "She have to leave early" is a grammatically correct sentence.
✓ False
6. "You shouldn't text while crossing the road" gives advice.
✓ True
7. "I might join you later" means the speaker is definitely coming.
✓ False
8. "Could you help me?" is a polite way to make a request.
✓ True

Exercise 2 — Multiple Choice

1. You ____ eat more fruit and vegetables — it's good for you.
✓ should
2. I ____ hand in my assignment by noon tomorrow.
✓ have to
3. She ____ be at home — I saw her car outside.
✓ might
4. Before the operation, he ____ play tennis every day.
✓ could
5. You ____ reply immediately — take your time.
✓ don't have to
6. ____ you give me a hand with these bags?

✓ **Could**

7. The train ____ be delayed — there was an incident earlier.

✓ **might**

8. You ____ save regularly when you're working on a document.

✓ **should**

Exercise 3 — Matching

1. You should write a thank-you email after an interview.

✓ **H — This is a good idea that the speaker recommends.**

2. She has to pick her children up from school at three.

✓ **G — An outside commitment means she has no choice.**

3. As a teenager, he could repair a car engine.

✓ **F — He had this technical skill when he was younger.**

4. The parcel might arrive tomorrow.

✓ **A — Delivery the next day is possible but not guaranteed.**

5. You don't have to finish it today — tomorrow is fine.

✓ **B — There is no deadline pressure — it is optional today.**

6. Could you send me the file when you get a chance?

✓ **D — The speaker is asking for something in a polite way.**

7. You shouldn't judge someone before you know the full story.

✓ **E — The speaker is advising against a particular behaviour.**

8. They might open a second branch in the spring.

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

Exercise 4 — Gap Fill

1. You ____ switch off your phone during the performance.

✓ **should**

2. He ____ submit a weekly report to his supervisor.

✓ **has to**

3. The café ____ be full at this time — it's very popular.

✓ **might**

4. When I lived near the coast, I ____ swim in the sea every morning.

✓ **could**

5. You ____ wear a suit — it's a very relaxed event.

✓ don't have to

6. ___ you show me how to use this programme?

✓ Could

7. We ___ need more chairs if more people come.

✓ might

8. You ___ tell someone where you're going when you travel alone.

✓ should

Exercise 5 — Word Order

1. ✓ You should call the doctor today

2. ✓ He has to renew his visa next month

3. ✓ The match might be cancelled tomorrow

4. ✓ Could you close the door please

5. ✓ You don't have to book in advance

6. ✓ She could sing beautifully as a child

7. ✓ You shouldn't leave valuables in your car

8. ✓ It might be worth checking the timetable

Exercise 6 — Word Sort

Advice:

✓ You ___ keep important documents in a safe place.

✓ You ___ work overtime — it's entirely voluntary.

✓ You ___ go to bed at a regular time every night.

Obligation:

✓ She ___ provide a doctor's certificate if she's absent.

✓ All visitors ___ sign in at the security desk.

✓ He ___ report to the site manager every morning.

Past Ability / Request:

✓ In my twenties, I ___ run ten kilometres without stopping.

✓ ___ you hold the door open for me, please?

✓ When I was a student, I ___ survive on very little sleep.

Possibility:

✓ There ___ be delays due to the roadworks.

✓ She ___ get promoted if things go well this quarter.

✓ It ___ be worth applying — you never know.

Exercise 7 — Complete the Conversation

1. A: I'm thinking of changing careers. You ___ talk to someone who works in that field first.

✓ **should**

2. B: Good idea. Do you ___ retrain completely, or can you transfer your skills?

✓ **have to**

3. A: I'm not sure. I ___ need to do a short course — I'm looking into it.

✓ **might**

4. B: When I changed jobs, I ___ use a lot of what I already knew.

✓ **could**

5. A: That's reassuring. ___ you send me the name of that recruiter you used?

✓ **Could**

6. B: Of course. And you ___ decide immediately — take your time.

✓ **don't have to**