

# MODAL AUXILIARY VERBS

## AUXILIARY VERBS

BE  
HAVE  
DO(ES)

## TENSES

SIMPLE (-/?): I **don't** like fish  
CONTINUOUS: I **am** studying  
PERFECT: He **has** finished

## MODAL VERBS

CAN / COULD  
SHOULD / MUST  
MAY / MIGHT

## MODALITY

ABILITY  
POSSIBILITY  
PERMISSION  
OBLIGATION  
SUGGESTION  
etc.

## REGULAR VERBS

WORK / STUDY  
DRIVE / LIVE  
EAT / etc.

## ACTIONS

I **work** in Madrid  
I **study** ESPA II  
He **drives** very well

Modal auxiliary verbs are **special verbs** that have a specific meaning and help us express things like ability, possibility, permission, and necessity. They are **different** to any other verb in English. The most common modal verbs are can, could, may, might, should and must.

1

*Modal verbs never work alone. They are always followed by an "action" verb, the main verb in the sentence.*

Los verbos modales nunca van solos, siempre van seguidos de un verbo "normal" que le da significado a la frase.

I **can** play the piano

You **should** go to the dentist

†**must**

2

*Modal verbs are similar to AUXILIARY verbs when forming the NEGATIVE (adding **+not**), and QUESTIONS (**inversion**).*

Los modales se parecen a los AUXILIARES cuando formamos la negativa (añadiendo +not) y la interrogativa (por inversión)

**Can** you play the piano ?

You **shouldn't** eat so much sugar

3

*Modal verbs are INVARIABLE, they never change*

Los verbos modales tienen una sola forma invariable, no cambian en ninguna circunstancia.

I **can** play the piano

She **can** drive

He **can** cook very well