

MODAL VERBS

MEANING	PRESENT / FUTURE REFERENCE	PAST REFERENCE
ABILITY	CAN	COULD WAS/WERE ABLE TO MANAGED TO
POSSIBILITY	MAY MIGHT COULD	WOULD HAVE + pp MIGHT HAVE + pp COULD HAVE + pp (didn't actually happen)
		MAY HAVE + pp MIGHT HAVE + pp COULD HAVE + pp (don't know whether it happened or not)
PROBABILITY	WILL	
CERTAINTY	MUST CAN'T	MUST HAVE + pp CAN'T HAVE + pp
OBLIGATION	MUST HAVE TO	HAD TO
NECESSITY	HAVE TO NEED TO NEED	HAD TO / DIDN'T HAVE TO DIDN'T NEED TO NEEDN'T HAVE + pp
ADVICE	SHOULD OUGHT TO HAD BETTER	SHOULD HAVE + pp OUGHT TO HAVE + pp (regret)
REQUESTS	CAN COULD WOULD YOU MIND + -ing ...?	
PERMISSION	CAN COULD MAY	
OFFERS	SHALL I ...?	
SUGGESTIONS	SHALL WE ...? LET'S + V HOW ABOUT + -ing ...? WHY DON'T WE ...?	