

Using Modal Verbs

Modality refers to how likely something is to happen.

Modal verbs are used to adjust the level of certainty of an event.

Words with **low modality** indicate a **low level of certainty** of an event occurring.

Words with **high modality** indicate a **high level of certainty** of an event occurring.

Low

may
might
mightn't
could

Medium

will
won't
should
shouldn't
can
would

High

must
mustn't
ought to
shall
has to

Rewrite each sentence to be more persuasive by choosing a higher modality verb. The modal verbs are underlined.

1. Building a new pool may be good for the town.

2. You could finish your homework by Friday.

3. A rescue dog might make a great family pet.

4. If we don't save money now, we mightn't have enough for the future.

5. We shouldn't forget to look after our brave heroes.

Write a sentence using each of the following modal verbs.

(would) _____

(must) _____

(won't) _____

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Find and circle the modal verb in each sentence.

Rewrite each sentence to be more persuasive by choosing a higher modality verb.

1. Building a new pool may be good for the town.

2. You could finish your homework by Friday.

3. A rescue dog might make a great family pet.

4. If we don't save money now, we mightn't have enough for our holiday.

5. We shouldn't forget to look after our brave heroes.

Write a sentence using each of the following modal verbs.

(would) _____

(must) _____

(won't) _____