Grammar Course

Dr. FETHIZA T. Mouna Wendnsday, september,27th,2023

The lecturer

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NB: For all inquiries regarding the subject, students can contact the lecturer via e-mail, and in person in the teachers' room.

planner

Teaching agenda of the First Semester (13 lectures+ 13TD)

sep	Oct	Nov	DEC	Jan	
27	4	1	6	0716	
	11	8	13		
	18	15	20		
	25	22	2307		
		29			

Exams

07 Jan -16Jan

holiday

23 Dec- 07Jan

Teaching Units (1 st semester)

1 Modal verbs

2 Conditionals

Direct and indirec speech



Tag Questions



Rules

- In order to qualify for the continuous assessment system, attendance at 75% of the lectures is required.
- Absence justifications will not be accepted.
- Listen, listen quite.
- Do not leave the session without permission of the teachers.

Lecture 01: Model verbs Ability

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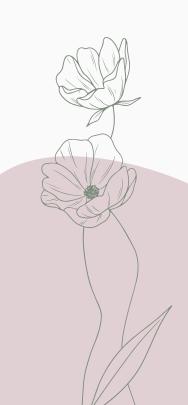


Table of contents

Ability

Present and future ability

Past Ability

Could/ was were able to

Quick practice

The modal verbs are can, could, may, might, must, should, will, shall and would.

Review these examples. How do They differ from main verbs in several ways?

- 1) I can, he can, they can.
- 2) we **do not** use do/does not: You shouldn't say that.
- 3) **Could** you come here?
- I want to be able to sing perfectly.
- I must be going soon. She might have had the results by now.
- 6) They **would visit** you if you asked them.

The modal verbs differ from main verbs in several ways.

- They have the same form for all subjects: I can, he can, they can.
- The negative is just not; we do not use do/does not: You shouldn't say that.
- The modal verb goes before the subject in questions: Could you come here?

- □ They do not have infinitive forms (to ...), so to make an infinitive, we use a different verb:
 - I want to **be able to sing** perfectly.
- They do not have participle forms (-ed, -ing), so to make continuous or perfect tenses, we change the main verb:
 I must be going soon. She might have had the results by now.
- They are followed by the infinitive without to: They would visit you if you asked them.

The verbs need (to) and dare (to) are occasionally used in two forms:

MAIN VERB FORM

- You don't need to turn the computer off.
- ➤ I don't know if I dare to tell her what's happened.
 We don't dare (to) go there after dark.

MODAL VERB FORM

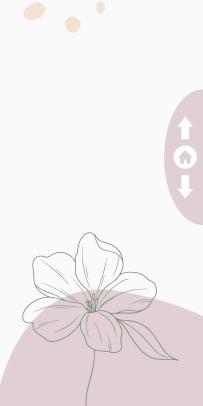
- You needn't turn the computer off.
- ➤ I don't know if I dare tell her what's happened.
- > We daren't go there after dark.

USE	form	examples	
ability/ lack of ability/ possibility	can/can't could/ couldn't 't	She can speak Spanish but she can't speak Italian. Mozart could play the piano at the age of five. On/y amateur athletes could compete	
possibility (present or future)	May/might	Mr. Andrews may be in his office. I'll just check. The shops might be busy tomorrow as it's a public holiday	
obligation	must (strong) should/ought to	The governing bodies of individual sports must decide Who is eligible. We should/ought to change some currency soon	
prohibition	Mustn't/ can't/ (strong) Shouldn't	You mustn't/can't cross the road here; it's dangerous We mustn't/can't use the pool after 7.00 p.m. You shouldn't eat while you're driving.	
Speculation	Can't/could/m ust /may/might	Sandra must be in the school/; her bag's in the staff room. Brian can't have been driving the car; he doesn't drive.	



1 Ability

Present and future ability



can or be able to

If the ability is surprising or involves overcoming some difficulty, we often use *is/are able to*:

Despite his handicap he can/is able to drive a car.



- 1. This book is able to be used by beginners.
- 2. This book can be used by beginners.



- This book is able to be used by beginners.
- This book can be used by beginners.

Formality Check

- To emphasise difficulty or to suggest effort, we use *manage to* or *succeed in* + -*ing*:
- 1. Do you think she'll manage to get a visa? (informal)
- 2. She succeeds in creating a positive atmosphere in every meeting. (more formal)



- I. We love being able to converse with the local people, so I'd like to be able to speak the language better. (-ing forms and infinitives)
- 2. I haven't been able to drive since I dislocated my wrist. (present perfect)

Formality Check

> We can also use *be unable to* if we want to sound more formal:

The claimant has been unable to drive since the date of the accident.

Future Ability will be able to, NOT can

- 2 1. Can I speak fluently by the end of the course?
- 2. Will I be able to speak fluently by the end of the course?

- > will be able to for future arrangements:
- 1. The doctor <u>can't/won't</u> be able to see you before six as he's busy till then.
- less certain arrangement could, may or might (be able to):
- The dentist might be able to see you today; I'll have to check the diary.



The right option/s







- 1. Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so sheto call you then.
- a) can
- b) will able to
- c) Could
- d) Was able to
- e) Will unable to

Key answer

- 1. Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so sheto call you then.
- a) can
- b) will able to

Key answer

- 1. Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so sheto call you then.
- a) can
- b) will able to

- 2. The shopping channel is a real boon for Liz; she adoresbuy clothes, day or night!
- a) being able to
- b) Can
- c) Is able to

Key answer

2. The shopping channel is a real boon for Liz; she adores being able to buy clothes, day or night!





Could/ was were able to





We usually use could to express past ability:

Hannah loves the water. She <u>could</u> swim before she could walk.

notice

> 1. Mike's car broke down yesterday but fortunately he was able to repair it.

We usually use <u>could</u> to express past ability:

Hannah loves the water. She <u>could</u> swim before she could walk.



- Mike's car broke down yesterday but fortunately he could repair it.
- Mike's car broke down yesterday but fortunately he was able to repair it.

- could, or was/were able to, in questions, superlatives, and in sentences with limiting adverbs such as only or hardly:
- 'Could you/Were you able to fix the computer yourself?'
 'No, I could only/was only able to back up the important files.'
- 2. Sorry, but this is the cheapest hotel I <u>could/was able to</u> find.
- 3. She was so exhausted she <u>could hardly/was hardly able</u> to speak.

couldn't or was/were not able to to describe a lack of ability/success:

Mozart couldn't/wasn't able to speak French.

We use could + have + past participle to describe a past ability which wasn't used or a past opportunity which wasn't taken.

She <u>could have paid</u> by credit card but she preferred to use cash.

(= did she use it he card?)

- couldn't have been + comparative adjective when we want to emphasise a past action or feeling:
- I couldn't have been more pleased when I heard your results congratulations!



3

Quick practice

Choose a suitable form of can, could, be able to, manage to or succeed in to complete the sentences. Sometimes more than one form is possible.

Choose a suitable form of can, could, be able to, manage to or succeed in to complete the sentences. Sometimes more than one form is possible.

- 1 The manager was a bit reluctant but in the end I......get a refund.
- 2 It was really annoying; I get on to any of the websites you recommended.
- 3 When does the next match start? I hardly hear the last announcement.
- 4 The new road opens next month so we get to the coast more quickly.
- 5 Most of the big hotels were full, but we find a room in a small guesthouse near the station.
- 6 The aid workers......come home after the incident, but they decided to stay in the war zone.

Key Answers

- 1 The manager was a bit reluctant but in the end I managed to /was able to get a refund.
- 2 It was really annoying; I wasn't able to/couldn't/didn't manage to get on to any of the websites you recommended.
- 3 When does the next match start? I <u>could</u> hardly hear the last announcement.
- 4 The new road opens next month so we will be able to get to the coast more quickly.
- 5 Most of the big hotels were full, but we managed to find a room in a small guesthouse near the station.
- 6 The aid workers could have **come** home after the incident, but they decided to stay in the war zone.

Thanks!



Do you have any questions?



