

# Grammar Course



Dr. FETHIZA T. Mouna  
Wednesday, september, 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023



# The lecturer

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Teaching and Research Profile	Doctorate in the role of Discourse analysis in EFL context – University of Kasi Merbah Ouargla.
Research Lines :	Applied linguistics -English for specific purposes- Discours analysis

**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	07--16
	11	8	13	
	18	15	20	
	25	22	23--07	
		29		

### Exams

07 Jan -16Jan

### holiday

23 Dec- 07Jan



# Teaching Units (1 st semester)

1

Modal verbs

2

Conditionals

3

Direct and indirect  
speech

4

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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# Modal forms

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?
- 4) • I **want to be able** to sing perfectly.
- 5) • I **must be going** soon. She **might have** had the results by now.
- 6) They **would visit** you if you asked them.



# Modal forms

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?

# Modal forms

- 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.

# Modal forms

- 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.

# Modal forms

USE	form	examples
ability/ lack of ability/ possibility	can/can't could/ couldn't	She can speak Spanish but she <b>can't</b> speak Italian. Mozart <b>could</b> play the piano at the age of five. On/y amateur athletes <b>could</b> 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 <b>must</b> decide Who is eligible. We <b>should/ought to</b> change some currency soon
prohibition	Mustn't/ can't/ (strong) Shouldn't	You <b>mustn't/can't</b> cross the road here; it's dangerous We <b>mustn't/can't</b> use the pool after 7.00 p.m. You <b>shouldn't</b> eat while you're driving.
Speculation	Can't/could/must /may/might	Sandra <b>must be</b> in the school/; her bag's in the staff room. Brian <b>can't have been driving</b> the car; he doesn't drive.



1

# Ability

Present and future 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.*

# Present and future ability



**Check**

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

# Present and future ability



Check

 ~~*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)

# Present and future ability



*can/could*

1. 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* 



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?*

# Present and future ability

- **will be able to for future arrangements:**
  1. The doctor **can't/won't 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.



# choose!

The right option/s

# Present and future ability

1. Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so she  
.....to call you then.

- a) can
- b) will able to
- c) Could
- d) Was able to
- e) Will unable to

# Present and future ability

Key answer

1. Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so she  
.....to call you **then.**

a) can

b) will able to



# Present and future ability

Key answer

1. Dr Martens finishes her surgery at 11.30, so she  
.....to call you **then.**

a) can

b) will able to

# Present and future ability

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

- a) being able to
- b) Can
- c) Is able to

# Present and future ability

Key answer

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



2

# Past Ability

Could/ was were able to

# Past Ability

- We usually use **could** to express past ability:

Hannah loves the water. She could swim before she could walk.



**notice**

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

## Past Ability

- We usually use could to express past ability:

Hannah loves the water. She could swim before she could walk.

# Past Ability



## notice

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

# Past Ability

- **could, or was/were able to, in questions, superlatives, and in sentences with limiting adverbs such as only or hardly:**
  1. **'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 **could/was able to find**.
  3. She was so exhausted she **could hardly/was hardly able** to speak.



# Past Ability

- **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 could have paid by credit card but she preferred to use cash.

(= did she use it he card?)

# Past Ability

- 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 could 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?

