



QUESTION BANK – MODALS (2020-21)

Class: IX

Sub: ENGLISH

Modal verbs (can, could, must, should, ought to, may, might, will, would, shall) are modal auxiliary verbs that express ability, necessity, obligation, duty, request, permission, advice, desire, probability, possibility, etc. Modal verbs express the speaker's attitude to the action indicated by the main verb.

Examples:

1. She can swim. (ability)
2. They must attend the meeting. (strong necessity)
3. You should do regular exercise. (advice)
4. Could you help me with this assignment, please? (request)
5. The guests may stay here. (permission)
6. He would like to see her. (desire)
7. The manager might leave soon. (possibility)
8. My brother must be at playground now. (strong probability)

Modal verbs are special verbs which behave very differently from normal verbs. Here are some important differences:

1. Modal verbs do not take "-s" in the third person.

Examples:

Julie can speak French.

The team should be here by 6 am tomorrow.

2. You use "not" to make modal verbs negative, even in Simple Present and Simple Past.

Examples:

We should not eat junk food.

She might not come to college.

3. Many modal verbs cannot be used in the past tenses or the future tenses.

Examples:

She will can run fast. Not Correct

Naresh musted study very hard. Not Correct

Common Modal Verbs

Can  
Could  
May  
Might  
Must/Ought to  
Shall  
Should  
Will  
Would

### **Modal verbs as Synonyms**

The modal verbs SHOULD and OUGHT TO are close synonyms; WILL and WOULD are synonyms in some types of polite requests. It is sometimes difficult for language learners to choose among synonymous modal verbs. Always choose a more general synonym out of a group of synonyms or a synonym with a more straightforward meaning.

For example, MAY, MIGHT, COULD are synonyms in the meaning "possibility". MAY has two other meanings; COULD has four other meanings, two of which are rather difficult to distinguish from "possibility" without a clear context. Only MIGHT has just one meaning: possibility. The choice should be obvious – use MIGHT or MAY for "possibility".

### **Modal verbs as phrasal modals**

Examples: be able to, be going to, be supposed to, have to, have got to, ought to, used to.  
With these phrasal modals, the simple form of a verb follows to:

She's able to help us.

They are going to help us.

We are supposed to help them.

**Modals** express the mode of action. The most common modals are: may, might, can, could, shall, should, will, would, must, dare, need, have and used to.

### **GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF MODALS**

1. Modals are never used alone. A Principal verb is either present or implied; as—  
I *can* sing. He *will* help you.
2. Modals do not change according to the number or person of the subject; as—  
I *can*. We *can*. You *can*. We *can*. They *can*. etc.  
I *may*. We *may*. You *may*. He *may*. They *may*. etc.
3. Modals have no *Infinitive*, *Present Participle* or *Past Participle* forms.
4. Modals cannot be used in all the tenses. When a modal does not fall in this pattern, it works as a Principal Verb; as—  
God *willed* so.

He *needs* a pen.  
She *dared* to go into the dark forest.  
(Here *will*, *need*, and *dare* are used as *main verbs*)

### Relationship of Modals with Tenses

(i) *May*, *can*, *shall*, and *will* are in present forms while *might*, *could*, *should*, and *would* are their past forms.

The two forms express different meanings, but usually, no difference of time, e.g. the difference between *may* and *might* is often that of the *degree of probability*, as—

She *may* come today. (*possibility / likely to happen*)

She *might* come today. (*remote possibility/less likely*)

(ii) However, if the verb in the main clause is in the past tense, the forms *might*, *could*, *should* and *would* serve as regular past tenses; as—

1. He said, “I *can* help you.”  
He said that he *could* help her.
2. You said, “She *will* come back soon.”  
You said that she *would* come back soon.
3. Sheetal said, “May I *use* this pen, madam?”  
Sheetal asked her teacher if she *might* use that pen.

(iii) When we want to express the past time in verb phrases involving modals, we use the Present Perfect Tense of the Principal Verb; as

She *must have reached* home by now.

You *ought to have told* me all the facts.

### General Functions of Modals

1. Modals express *probability*, *logical necessity*, *possibility*, *future confirmation* etc. These are not conceptions of the mind. *Modals are not used to state facts.*
2. Modals are used in the main clause of conditional sentences. Since the condition is contrary to facts, the main statement cannot be actual. Hence a modal is used; as—  
If I *were* you, I *should help* the old beggar.  
If it *were* fine, we *might play* a cricket match.  
If you had told me, I *could have helped* you.

Apart from these general functions, modals are used in various ways.  
Let us consider them separately.

## USE OF MODALS

### CAN/COULD

*Can* is used for all persons in the *present tense*.

*Could* is used for all persons in the *past tense*.

**CAN** is used

1. **to express permission:**

You *can* go now. (= I give you permission to go)

You *cannot* touch the flowers. (= I don't permit you to touch the flowers)

2. **to express ability:**

I *can* swim. (= I know how to swim)

He *can* speak Sanskrit. (= He is able to speak Sanskrit)

3. **to express possibility:**

Anyone *can* make mistakes.

Accidents *can* happen to anyone.

4. **'Can't help' is an idiom. It means 'Can't avoid'; e.g.**

He has a bad cold. He *can't help* sneezing.

The boys *can't help* laughing on seeing the clown.

**COULD** must be used

to express *ability, permission* and *possibility* when the main verb is in the past tense; as—

I *could* swim well when I was younger. (*ability*)

*Could* you lend me some money, please?

Could you tell me the time, please?

Could you wait for a few minutes?

## MAY/MIGHT

'May' is used for all persons of the present and future tense.

'**May**' is used

1. **to express or to seek permission:** [*in a formal way*]

You *may* go (= I permit you to go.)

*May* I come in, Sir? (= seeking permission)

Students *may not* bring any book or paper in the examination hall. (*permission refused*)

2. **to express possibility:**

It *may* rain. He *may* come today.

3. **to express a wish:**

*May* he live long! *May* she enjoy good health!

4. **to express purpose:**

He works hard so that he *may* pass.

## MIGHT

*Might* is used for all persons of the past tense.

**(i) to seek permission:**

'Might I' can be used instead of 'May I' when asking for permission and 'Might I' is a more polite form. The use of '*might*' shows that the speaker is rather hesitant or doubtful about making the request; as—

**(i)** *May* I use your phone?

**(ii)** *Might* I use your phone?

Both express the same idea, but the second sentence is more polite.

**(ii) to express possibility:**

'*Might*' expresses greater doubt than 'may'.

'*Might*' suggests remote/distant possibility; as—

It *might* rain. He *might* come today.

**(iii) to put forward a suggestion:**

'*Might*' is often used to put forward a suggestion or offer advice which you are a little hesitant about; as—

You *might* try again. (= But I am not certain if you should)

You *might* wait.

**(iv) in conditional sentences:**

'May / Might' can be used instead of 'shall / will' and 'should / would' in the conditional sentences respectively to express a possible result; as—

If you work hard, you *may* pass, (possibility)

If she had left early, she *might* have reached by now.

*Might* must be used when the main verb of the sentence is in the past tense.

**(i) to express permission:**

He said that I *might* borrow his car.

The teacher said that the boy *might* go.

**(ii) to express possibility:**

He thought that I *might* like it.

Sudha said that she *might* go abroad next year.

**(iii) to express speculation** (guess) about past actions. '*Might have*' is used for past time.

He told me that she *might have* finished her work.

This medicine *might have* cured your cough.

Both '*May*' and '*might*' are used to suggest '*there is a good reason*'-, as—

You *may* as well say so.

She *might* as well come by the next train.

You *might* just as well go as not.

(*There is just as much to be said in favour of going as against it*)

**EXERCISE 1**

(Solved)

**Fill in the blanks with 'can' or 'could':**

1. .... you prepare a cup of tea for me, please?
2. She ..... not help to laugh at the joker.
3. We ..... execute your plan at once.

4. He said that he ..... walk twenty kms at a stretch.
5. A lame person ..... not walk.
6. .... you lift this box for me?
7. She ..... read without glasses till last year.
8. You ..... not see the principal now.
9. He worked hard but ..... not pass the examination.
10. She ..... play the piano when she was only eleven.

**Answers:**

1. could 2. can 3. can 4. could 5. can 6. could 7. could 8. can 9. could 10. could.

**EXERCISE 2**  
(Solved)

**Fill in the blanks with 'May' or 'Might':**

1. The news ..... not be true.
2. With a little more effort we ..... win this time.
3. The examinations ..... be postponed.
4. We ..... have gone if they had invited us to dinner.
5. With a little push, he ..... have got the job.
6. .... your future be bright!
7. You ..... not attend the meeting this evening.
8. He said that it ..... not rain.
9. She asked if she ..... see the director.
10. The sky is overcast. It .....rain at any time.

**Answers:**

1. may 2. might 3. may, 4. might 5. might 6. may 7. may 8. might 9. might 10. may

**EXERCISE 3**  
(Solved)

**Fill in the blanks with 'can', 'could', 'may' or 'might' appropriate to the sense given in brackets:**

1. He ..... do this if he tried. (*possibility*)
2. She ..... not run as fast as you. (*ability*)
3. He ..... enter college next year. (*possibility*)
4. I knew that I ..... borrow his car. (*ability*)
5. You ..... tell me what he said. (*claim*)
6. You ..... tell me what he said. (*ability*)
7. I ..... help him if he asked me to. (*wish*)
8. He works hard so that that he ..... get good marks. (*purpose*)
9. When I was young, I ..... write Hindi verse. (*capacity*)
10. Had you worked hard, you ..... have won a scholarship (*possibility*)

**Answers:**

1. might 2. can 3. may 4. could 5. might 6. could 7. may 8. may 9. could 10. might.

**WILL/SHALL**

**(a) With the second and third persons, will is used**

**1. to express simple future:**

She *will leave* for Ambala tomorrow.

Lata *will sing* a song.

You *will study* in the evening.

**2. to express an invitation or request Here 'will you'? is not a question in the ordinary sense; as—**

*Will* you care for a cup of tea? (*Invitation*)

*Will* you please lend me your pen? (*Request*)

**3. to express command in an informal or impersonal manner expecting that it will be surely obeyed; as—**

All new boys *will* report for a medical check-up.

“You *will* not leave the class before completing your homework,” said the teacher.

Officers *will* appear properly dressed in public places.

**4. to express something that happens again and again and is likely to recur; as—**

The old woman *will* sit in the park and sing songs.

Vinod *will* go to the coffee house and discuss politics.

Some persons *will* walk in the middle of the road.

**5. to express quantity or capacity; as—**

This jug *will* hold two litres of water.

Two hundred persons *will* be seated in this tent.

**6. to express prediction; as—**

It is too close, it *will* rain.

You *will* fall ill, if you eat all that.

**7. as a Principal Verb:**

God *willed* otherwise. We waited under different clocks and could not meet each other.

**(b) 'Will' with the First Person is used**

**1. to express willingness or offer; as—**

I will help you as far as possible.

I will carry that parcel for you.

**2. to express intention or promise; as—**

I *will* go home to see my mother.

We *will* come in time.

**3. to express threat; as—**

I *will* beat you.

I *will* teach him a lesson.

**4. to express determination; as—**

I will lay down my life for my country.

I will not take eggs; I am a strict vegetarian.

## SHALL

### (a) With the first person, 'shall' is used

1. **to express simple future; as—**  
We *shall* leave for Delhi tomorrow.  
I *shall* go for a long drive this evening.
2. **to express the plan or intention of the speaker; as—**  
We *shall* shift to our new house next week.  
I *shall* go to Chandigarh via Rohtak.
3. **to express an offer or suggestion; as—**  
*Shall* I shut the window?  
*Shall* we sit in the lawn?

### (b) With the second and third persons, 'shall' is used

1. **to express a command; as—**  
You *shall* do it. You *shall* remain here till he comes.  
He *shall* report for duty at 8.30 a.m. tomorrow.
2. **to express a threat; as—**  
You *shall* die for it. You shall not study further if you fail.  
She *shall* be punished for her misdeeds.  
He *shall* be sacked for his negligence.
3. **to express a promise; as—**  
You *shall* get leave today.  
You *shall* have a scooter if you pass.  
He *shall* get a reward for his faithfulness.
4. **to express command or wish of the person addressed if used with the third person; as—**  
*Shall* he carry your luggage?  
*Shall* he wait outside for you?

## EXERCISE 4 (Solved)

Use shall or will in the blanks in the following sentences:

1. He ..... leave this office at once. It is final.
2. I ..... file a case of defamation against the paper.
3. We ..... not allow this type of misrule to continue.
4. All traitors ..... die.
5. How long ..... you stay at Manali?
6. ....you attend her farewell party?
7. ....we be invited to her mango party?
8. She ..... just sit and brood over her past life.
9. We ..... not visit the Trade Fair tomorrow.
10. .... we refresh ourselves with some coffee now?



**Answers:**

1. shall 2. will 3. will 4. shall 5. will 6. will 7. shall 8. will 9. shall 10. shall.

**EXERCISE 5**

(Solved)

Fill in the blanks with 'shall' or 'will' whichever is appropriate:

1. You ..... not steal. (command)
2. We .....be very glad to see you. (simple future)
3. My son .....be twelve next month. (natural occurrence)
4. .... you do it or shall I? (enquiry)
5. All right! You ..... have what you want. (promise)
6. I ..... meet you again if you so desire. (determination)
7. I ..... meet you again next week, I expect. (simple future)
8. You ..... stay till you have finished your work. (threat)
9. You ..... not prevent me from saying what I want, (simple future)
10. If you carry the chairs I ..... carry the table. (willingness)

**Answers:**

1. shall 2. shall 3. will 4. will 5. shall 6. will 7. shall 8. shall 9. will 10. will.

**WOULD/SHOULD**

**Would** is the past tense of 'will'. 'Would,' is used

1. **to denote the past tense of will/shall in indirect speech; as—**  
He said that he *would* go.  
The officer said that he *would* look into the matter.
2. **to express a habitual or customary activity in the past; as—**  
He *would* go for a swim in the sea every morning.  
She *would* sit in the sun and talk all day.
3. **to make a polite request (with the second person); as—**  
*Would* you spare some time for me?  
*Would* you mind telling me the way to the post office?
4. **To denote courtesy; as—**  
*Would* you stay for dinner?  
*Would* you take a cup of tea?  
(Note. Here 'would you' is more polite than 'will you')
5. **to express a wish; as—**  
*Would* that I were a film star!  
*Would* that I were rich!
6. **to express a preference; as—**  
I *would* like to ask you something.  
I *would* rather die than beg.
7. **To express improbable or unreal conditions; as—**  
If I won a lottery prize, I *would* build a hospital.

If I were an astronaut, I *would* take you to Mars.  
Had you helped her, she *would* have succeeded.

## SHOULD

**Should** is the past tense of shall. It is used

1. **to denote the past tense of shall in indirect speech; as—**  
I said that I *should* go.  
He said that they *should* report for duty on Monday.
2. **to express obligation or advice:**  
We *should* respect our elders.  
You *should* do your job well.
3. **to express purpose:**  
She works hard lest she *should* fail.  
He worked hard so that he *should* pass the examination.  
Hire a taxi, so that you *shouldn't* miss your train.
4. **to express probability or likelihood; as—**  
Should they play well, they will win.  
If they should play well, they will win.

Here the use of '*should*' is preferred to the present tense to express a very unlikely condition.  
If Urvi *should* come, I'll inform you.

### EXERCISE 6 (Solved)

Fill in the blanks with 'would' or 'should':

1. You ..... work hard to win a scholarship.
2. He ..... rather starve than beg.
3. .... you post this letter?
4. They ..... arrive here at any moment.
5. If I were a judge, I ..... do fair justice.
6. I ..... like you to help him with his studies.
7. We ..... help the poor and the needy.
8. .... she walks fast, she will catch the train.
9. .... you like to listen to music?
10. I wish he ..... not fail this time.

**Answers:**

1. *should* 2. *would* 3. *Would* 4. *should* 5. *would* 6. *would* 7. *should* 8. *should* 9. *would* 10. *would*.

### EXERCISE 7 (Solved)

Fill in the blanks with the right word out of those given in brackets against each sentence:

1. .... she works hard, she will pass. (*would, should*)
2. I .....prefer to keep quiet. (*would, should*)
3. Work hard lest you ..... fail. (*would, should*)
4. I am sure we .....cross the forest easily. (*will, shall*)
5. ....you please stop talking so loudly. (*will, shall*)
6. If I were you, I ..... not do it. (*would, should*)
7. ....you please lend me your scooter? (*would, should*)
8. I ..... carry out your orders at all costs. (*would, should*)
9. I .....like to inform you of my inability to attend the meeting. (*would, should*)
10. Walk carefully lest you .....fall down. (*would, should*)
11. He ..... rather resign than submit to injustice. (*would, should*)
12. You ..... not ask me to do anything against my will. (*should, will*)
13. You ..... catch a cold, if you go out in the rain. (*shall, will*)
14. I ..... not budge an inch from the righteous path. (*shall, will*)
15. You .....not go in for that old car. (*would, should*)

**Answers:**

1. *should* 2. *would* 3. *should* 4. *shall* 5. *will* 6. *would* 7. *would* 8. *would* 9. *would* 10. *should* 11. *would*  
 12. *should* 13. *will* 14. *will* 15. *should*.

**MUST**

‘**Must**’ refers to the Present or the Future Tense.

**Must** is *used*

1. **to express compulsion or necessity; as—**  
 A servant *must* obey his master.  
 Every member *must* participate in the discussion,
2. **to express duty or a very strong obligation; as—**  
 We *must* work for the country. (*duty*)  
 You *must* practise virtue. (*duty*)  
 We *must* respect our parents. (*obligation*)  
 We *must* obey the laws of our country. (*obligation*)

3. **to express emphatic advice; as—**  
 You *must* reach home before sunset.  
 You *must* use seat-belt while driving a car.
4. **to express determination; as—**  
 I *must* see you again before the meeting.  
 You *must* become a doctor.  
 She *must* qualify the test.
5. **to express certainty or strong belief; as—**  
 All *must* die sooner or later.  
 Everyone *must* grow old and perish.
6. **to express possibility or inference; as—**  
 She *must* be at least fifty years old.  
 Nina *must* have reached the station by now.
7. **to express logical necessity or expectation; as—**  
 There *must* be some error in computation.  
 You *must* feel sorry for your misbehaviour.
8. **to express strong negation by ‘must not’; as—**  
 He *must not* waste time in street plays.  
 You *must not* be rude to your elders.

## MUSTN'T

### Must not (Mustn't) is used

1. **to express prohibition or negative command; as—**  
 You *mustn't* jump the traffic lights.  
 One *mustn't* smoke in the presence of ladies.
2. **to express the prohibition of “very strong obligation”; as—**  
 A peon *mustn't* disobey his officer.  
 You *mustn't* leave home without mother's permission.
3. **to express the prohibition of necessity; as—**  
 You *mustn't* bring cameras or sticks inside the hall.  
 Candidates *mustn't* write anything except their roll numbers.

## OUGHT

‘Ought’ refers to Present, Past, or Future Tense.

### ‘Ought’ is used

1. **to express the sense of duty or moral obligation; as—**  
 Students *ought to* prepare well for their examinations. (*duty*)  
 You *ought to* maintain communal harmony. (*social obligation*)  
 We *ought to* love our neighbours. (*moral obligation*)  
 She *ought to* consult some doctor. (*advice*)  
 We *ought not to* use unfair means in the examination. (*advice*)

**Note.** The sense of moral obligation springs from within. There is no outside force or compulsion. ‘Must’ suggests the speaker’s authority and emphatic advice ‘should’ implies what

is the proper or right action.

'Ought to' is less forceful and has the same meaning as 'should'.

## 2. to express strong probability.

She ought to pass this time.

**The past tense of ought is expressed with ought to have + Third form of the verb; as—**

You *ought to have attended* the meeting.

The driver *ought to have applied* the brakes.

She *ought to have helped* the old woman.

You *ought not to have criticised* me in public.

## HAVE TO

1. **Have to** is used to express compulsion or necessity from without; as  
I *have to* cook my own meals these days.  
She *has to* help her mother in domestic affairs.  
People *had to* walk miles to fetch drinking water.
2. **Questions and negatives have formed both ways** i.e. with or without 'Do'; as—  
**Negatives:** We *don't have to* clean our own shoes.  
We haven't to clear our own shoes.  
**Questions:** **Do** you *have to* cook your own meals?  
*Have* you to cook your own meals?

## EXERCISE 8 (Solved)

**Fill up the blanks with should, must, mustn't, have to, or ought to:**

1. You ..... respect your elders.
2. He ..... be more careful in the future.
3. You ..... to take regular exercise.
4. She is headstrong. She ..... have her way in everything.
5. You ..... not tell lies. It is not good for you.
6. She ..... to develop good manners.
7. She ..... contact the doctor at once.
8. They ..... to have been more generous.
9. Teachers ..... have affection for their students.
10. Mohit, you ..... waste a minute now. Your examination is at hand.
11. Varun, you ..... squander your parents' hard-earned money.
12. The students ..... be in school at nine a.m.
13. You ..... disobey the laws of the land.
14. You ..... mend your ways before you criticise others.
15. You ..... disobey your parents.

### Answers:

1. *must* 2. *should* 3. *ought* 4. *must* 5. *should* 6. *ought* 7. *must* 8. *ought* 9. *should* 10. *mustn't* 11. *mustn't*  
12. *have to* 13. *mustn't* 14. *have to* 15. *mustn't*.

### NEED

1. **As a regular verb, 'need' expresses requirement; as—**  
She *needs* money for a camera.  
He *needed* your help.  
I *do not need* any apples.
2. **As modal auxiliary, need is used to express necessity or obligation.**  
It is used only in the Present Tense; as—  
*Need* I to go there?  
*Need* she to stay here more?  
*Need* he bring more milk tomorrow?
3. **Needn't implies absence of necessity or obligation; as—**  
You *needn't go there again*:  
She *needn't wait for me*.  
*Needn't* he go to the office today?

### DARE

1. **As a regular verb, 'Dare' means 'Challenge' It is used in all tenses. Its forms are dare (dares), dared and dares.**  
He *dares* to go into the forest.  
She *dares* to go into the forest.  
She *dared* to go alone.  
I *dare say* that you are a liar.  
He *did not dare* to come out with the truth.  
She *does not dare* to offend me.
2. **As a modal auxiliary, it means 'to take courage' or 'venture'. Its other forms are dare, durst (dared), durst. It is used only in the Negative or Interrogative sentences.**  
He *dare not* enter my room. (*Present*)  
She *dare not* oppose me.  
He **durst not** open my letters. (*Past*)  
How *dare* you open my letter? (*Present*)

### EXERCISE 9 (Solved)

Fill in the blanks with the right word out of 'Must', 'Ought', 'used to', 'need', 'needn't', 'dare':

1. How ..... you say so?
2. She ..... have been ill.
3. You ..... worry about the child. He will recover soon.
4. .... you disobey your father.

5. Do I ..... to come here again?
6. You ..... to have obeyed your teacher.
7. He ..... not come tomorrow. We are going out on a picnic.
8. I ..... to have been there this time.
9. Gandhiji ..... spin every day.
10. You ..... engage a tutor for your son.

**Answers:**

1. dare 2. must 3. needn't 4. Dare 5. need 6. ought 7. need 8. ought 9. used to 10. must.

**EXERCISE 10**  
**(Solved)**

**1. Fill in the blanks with suitable modals:**

*may, ought to, would, must, need.*

- (i) You ..... go home now.
- (ii) The doctor told me that I ..... not smoke anymore.
- (iii) You ..... not see him. Just write a letter to him.
- (iv) We ..... show respect to our elders.
- (v) ..... you possibly lend a thousand rupees?

**2. Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:**

*may, could, must, ought, shall.*

- (i) You ..... not enter my class. I forbid it.
- (ii) He has been absent for a fortnight, he ..... be ill.
- (iii) ..... I come in? I'm sorry to be late.
- (iv) You ..... to respect your elders.
- (v) ..... I speak to the Principal for a minute?

**3. Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:**

*will, shall, should, can, could, must, ought to, need.*

- (i) I ..... go there even if it rains.
- (ii) You have burnt the midnight oil. You ..... win a scholarship.
- (iii) If you have a ticket, you ..... go inside.
- (iv) I ..... not come yesterday since I was too busy.
- (v) We ..... go to the station by taxi; it is getting late.
- (vi) You ..... not bring your umbrella. I'll lend you mine.
- (vii) Work hard lest you ..... fail.
- (viii) ..... he brings the dinner now?

**Answers:**

1. (i) *may* (ii) *must* (iii) *need* (iv) *ought to* (v) *Could/Would*
2. (i) *shall* (ii) *must* (iii) *May* (iv) *ought* (v) *Could*
3. (i) *will* (ii) *ought to* (iii) *can* (iv) *could* (v) *must* (vi) *need* (vii) *should* (viii) *will*.

**EXERCISE 11**  
**(Solved)**

**1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:**

*May, must, can, could, should, would, ought, need.*

1. She ..... run ten kms an hour.
2. You ..... go home now; it is getting dark.
3. He ..... to like this film?
4. Walk carefully lest you ..... stumble.
5. You ..... clean your teeth every morning.
6. You ..... not hurry; there's plenty of time.
7. She ..... cross such obstacles very easily when she was young.
8. The old man ..... lie in the sun and dream of his past.

**Answers:**

**1. can 2. must 3. ought 4. should 5. should 6. need 7. could 8. would**

**2. Fill in the blanks with suitable modals to convey the sense indicated in the brackets:**

1. I ..... speak English fluently. **(Present ability)**
2. You ..... have the money tomorrow. **(Promise)**
3. When I was young, I ..... run faster. **(Past ability)**
4. .... he disobeys his father? **(Courage)**
5. He ..... apologise or face the consequences. **(Command)**
6. You ..... leave these papers on my desk and go. **(Permission)**
7. .... we go to a movie? **(Suggestion)**
8. I ..... wait till you return. **(Willingness)**
9. We ..... not give up fighting. **(Determination)**
10. You ..... not touch those exhibits. **(Prohibition)**
11. You ..... not worry about your son now. **(Absence of necessity)**
12. I fear the weather ..... not improve soon. **(Possibility)**
13. You ..... go (permission), if you ..... **(Compulsion)**
14. They ..... sit together in the lawn and talk for hours. **(Habitual action in the past)**
15. We ..... to serve our nation. **(Moral obligation)**

**Answers:**

**1. can 2. shall 3. could 4. Dare 5. must 6. may lean 7. shall 8. will /must 9. will 10. must 11. need 12. may 13. can; must 14. would 15. ought.**



**EXERCISE 12**  
**(Solved)**

**Complete the following dialogue using suitable modals:**

**Father :** (a) ..... you go to the post-office just now and send these letters by registered post.

**Son:** There (b) ..... be a rush at this hour. Moreover, I (c) ..... not go to the post office on foot.

**Father:** But, why (d) ..... you go on foot? What happened to your scooter?

**Son:** It has no petrol. I (e) ..... not get it filled because there was a strike at the petrol station.

**Father:** O.K., You (f) ..... use my scooter, but you (g) ..... post the letters today. They are very urgent.

We (h) ..... suffer a loss if they were delayed.

**Answers:**

(a) *Could* (b) *might* (c) *can* (d) *should* (e) *could* (f) *can* (g) *must* (h) *could/might*.

**EXERCISE 13**  
**(Solved)**

**Complete the following paragraph by filling in the blanks with suitable modals:**

If we sit in an incorrect posture, it (a) ..... strain our back. As far as possible this (b) ..... be avoided. If the posture becomes a part of the habit, a low back pain invariably develops. It (c) ..... cured if we become conscious of our posture. We (d) ..... also take time out to perform a few exercises. If the exercises are done regularly the backache (e) ..... certainly be cured.

It (f) ..... also improve blood circulation within the spine.

**Answers:**

(a) *will* (b) *should* (c) *can* (d) *should* (e) *can /will* (f) *can / will*.

**EXERCISE 14**  
**(Solved)**

**1. Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals:**

(a) I (i) ..... smell something burning in the kitchen, (ii)..... you?

It (iii) ..... be the pudding in the oven. (b) Your essay is full of mistakes.

You (iv) ..... to be more careful. You (v) ..... do much better if you tried harder. (c) She (vi) ..... to play tennis before her marriage.

**Answers:**

(a) (i) *can* (ii) *can't* (iii) *may /must*

(b) (iv) *ought* (v) *could I would*

(c) (vi) *used*.

**2. Complete the following dialogue using suitable modals.**

Mother: You (a) ..... take an umbrella. It isn't going to rain.

Son: Well, I don't know. It (b) .....

Mother: O.K., then take care. You (c) ..... lose it.

**Answers:**

(a) *needn't* (b) *might/may* (c) *mustn't/shouldn't*.

**INTEGRATED TASKS**  
**I. ERROR CORRECTION**  
**EXERCISE 14**  
**(Solved)**

**Make corrections wherever necessary:**

1. All the traitors may die. *(threat)*
2. Will I open the window? *(offer)*
3. I wish she will come one time. *(wish)*
4. Shall you post this letter, please? *(request)*
5. I shall come if you need my help. *(willingness)*
6. He shall rather die than beg. *(preference)*
7. Shall you live long! *(wish)*
8. Work hard lest you may fail. *(fear)*
9. Can you give me five hundred rupees? *(polite request)*
10. Shall you care for a cup of coffee, please? *(polite request)*
11. None will leave the class. *(prohibition)*
12. Will you lift this heavy bag? *(ability)*
13. You need not walk in the middle of the road. *(prohibition)*
14. When we were students we play games regularly *(past habit)*
15. If she worked harder, she will pass. *(condition)*

**Answers:**

1. All the traitors *shall* die.
2. *Shall* I open the window?
3. I wish she *would come* one time.
4. *Will* you post this letter, please?
5. I *will* come if you need my help.
6. He *would* rather die than beg.
7. *May* you live long!
8. Work hard *lest* you *should* fail.
9. *Could* you *give* me five hundred rupees?
10. *Would* you *care* for a cup of coffee, please?
11. None *shall* leave the class.
12. *Can* you *lift* this heavy bag?
13. You *must not* walk in the middle of the road.
14. When we were students we *used to play* games regularly.
15. If she worked harder, she *would* pass.