



## TALKING ABOUT CERTAINTY & UNCERTAINTY

### Certainty

The modal verbs **will**, **shall**, **can**, and **must** can be used to express certainty.

*You will find your wallet.*

*I shall be late because I have a dental appointment.*

*You can't pay so much for that small room.*

*I must go to class because I have an exam.*

Express  
Certainty **Will**,  
**Shall**,  
**Can**, and  
**Must**



Express  
Uncertainty  
**May**, **Could**,  
**Can**, or **Might**

### Uncertainty

The modal verbs **may**, **could**, **can**, or **might** can be used to express uncertainty.

*I may be there this evening or I may not.*

*We might go on a cruise again.*

*We could wait and see if the weather clears up by tomorrow.*

*India can be very warm in May.*

### Choose the Correct Modal Verb

Complete the sentences with the correct modal verb (will, might, may, must, should, could, or can't) to express certainty or uncertainty.

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ be at home now. (must/might/may)
2. It \_\_\_\_\_ rain tomorrow. (will/might/may)
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ pass the exam. (will/must/should)
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ have eaten dinner already. (must/might/may)

### Sentence Transformation

Transform the sentences to express the opposite degree of certainty.

1. She will definitely attend the party. (Transform to express uncertainty)
2. Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
3. He may not have time for lunch. (Transform to express certainty)
4. Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Identifying Certainty/Uncertainty

Identify if the sentence expresses certainty, uncertainty, or possibility.

1. I will graduate next year. \_\_\_\_\_
2. It might snow tomorrow. \_\_\_\_\_
3. She could be the winner. \_\_\_\_\_

### Writing Practice

Write sentences using modal verbs to express:

- Certainty: \_\_\_\_\_
- Uncertainty: \_\_\_\_\_
- Possibility: \_\_\_\_\_

### Error Correction

Correct the errors in sentences using modal verbs.

1. I might to go to the movies tonight.
2. Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
3. She must to study harder.
4. Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

### Conversation Practice

Discuss the following topics using modal verbs:

- Your weekend plans
- Future career goals
- Predictions for the next 5 years

### Reading Comprehension

Read the passage and identify the modal verbs used to express certainty, uncertainty, or possibility.

Passage:

"According to the weather forecast, it will rain tomorrow. However, my friend might cancel our plans. She should be free, but she hasn't confirmed yet. The concert may be sold out, but we can try to buy tickets at the door."

### Sentence Completion

Complete the sentences with the correct modal verb to express the degree of certainty shown in parentheses.

1. The new restaurant \_\_\_\_\_ be good. (possibility)
2. The flight \_\_\_\_\_ be delayed. (uncertainty)
3. The company \_\_\_\_\_ hire more staff next year. (certainty)

### Modal Verb Match

Match the sentences with the correct modal verb phrase.

Sentences:

- |                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. I'm not sure if I'll get the job. | a) will definitely |
| 2. The package will arrive tomorrow. | b) might not       |
| 3. She has a good chance of winning. | c) could           |
|                                      | d) must            |
|                                      | e) should          |

### Role-Play

Role-play different scenarios using modal verbs:

- Making predictions about the future
- Expressing doubts or uncertainty
- Giving advice or recommendations

## Teacher's Key

### Choose the Correct Modal Verb

Complete the sentences with the correct modal verb (will, might, may, must, should, could, or can't) to express certainty or uncertainty. ***Different answers are possible!***

1. She \_\_\_\_\_ be at home now. (must/might/may)
2. It \_\_\_\_\_ rain tomorrow. (will/might/may)
3. He \_\_\_\_\_ pass the exam. (will/must/should)
4. They \_\_\_\_\_ have eaten dinner already. (must/might/may)

### Sentence Transformation

Transform the sentences to express the opposite degree of certainty.

1. She will definitely attend the party. (Transform to express uncertainty)
2. ***Answer: She might attend the party.***
3. He may not have time for lunch. (Transform to express certainty)
4. ***Answer: He won't have time for lunch.***

### Identifying Certainty/Uncertainty

Identify if the sentence expresses certainty, uncertainty, or possibility.

1. I will graduate next year. ***Certainty***
2. It might snow tomorrow. ***Uncertainty***
3. She could be the winner. ***Possibility***

### Error Correction

Correct the errors in sentences using modal verbs.

1. I might to go to the movies tonight. ***I might go to the movies tonight.***
2. She must to study harder. ***She must study harder.***

### Reading Comprehension

Read the passage and identify the modal verbs used to express certainty, uncertainty, or possibility.

"According to the weather forecast, it **will** rain tomorrow. However, my friend **might** cancel our plans. She **should** be free, but she hasn't confirmed yet. The concert **may** be sold out, but we **can** try to buy tickets at the door."

### Sentence Completion

Complete the sentences with the correct modal verb to express the degree of certainty shown in parentheses.

1. The new restaurant **should** be good. (possibility)
2. The flight **could** be delayed. (uncertainty)
3. The company **will definitely** hire more staff next year. (certainty)

### Modal Verb Match

Match the sentences with the correct modal verb phrase.

Sentences:

1. I'm not sure if I'll get the job. ***might not / could /***
2. The package will arrive tomorrow. ***will definitely / must***
3. She has a good chance of winning. ***could / should***