

Modal verbs 11

could, be able to and manage to



A Match the sentences on the left with the explanations on the right. To do so, decide if the sentence is describing someone's general past ability to do something, or a single action in the past when someone succeeded in doing something.

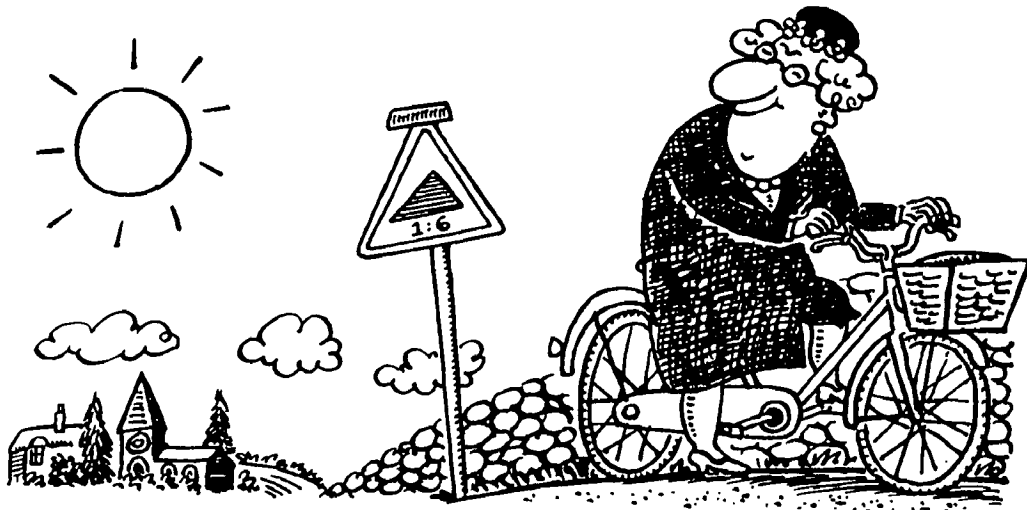
- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 He could sing beautifully as a child. | a) a single action |
| 2 He was feeling sick but he managed to sing the song right to the end. | b) a general ability |

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 3 Apparently, she was able to walk before she was one year old. | a) a single action |
| 4 She had broken a leg, but she was still able to walk to a house for help. | b) a general ability |

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 5 The horse escaped last night and we couldn't catch it. | a) a single action |
| 6 I couldn't swim until I was about 20 years old. | b) a general ability |

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 7 I didn't stop her because I simply wasn't able to. | a) a single action |
| 8 I've never been able to dance. | b) a general ability |

B Read the three explanations and the examples. One of them is not possible. Which one?



- 1 *managed* = a successful action
"In yesterday's cycle race she managed to finish first and Mr Smith came second."
- 2 *could* = an ability someone had
"She could cycle 60 miles a day when she was 50."
- 3 *could* = a successful action
"In yesterday's cycle race she could finish first and Mr Smith came second."

C Correct *could/managed to* in the following sentences only if necessary.

- 1 She managed to cycle up the hill on her eightieth birthday.
- 2 Last Friday she could cycle up the hill in under five minutes for the first time.
- 3 She managed to cycle up the hill every day until the day she died.
- 4 She could cycle up the hill until the day she died.
- 5 She could go shopping easily when she had her bicycle.
- 6 Everyone was surprised when she lost the race because they knew that she managed to cycle faster than anyone else in the village.

C

... I'm writing in case you ever decide to go to Ireland. Despite the bad weather, I had a wonderful time. Although I didn't have much money, it was still easy to find places to stay, and in spite of having been to Ireland twice before, I still found plenty of new things to see. Due to it being an island, the weather can be quite changeable. It's a pity that because I didn't have/of not having much free time I couldn't stay longer ...

30 Look, look like, look as if 1

A

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 She looks | 5 She looks like |
| 2 She looks as if | 6 She looks like |
| 3 She looks | 7 She looks |
| 4 She looks as if | 8 She looks as if |

B

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1 sounds like | 5 She sounds |
| 2 She sounds as if | 6 She sounds as if |
| 3 She sounds like | 7 She sounds like |
| 4 She sounds as if | 8 She sounds |

31 Look, look like, look as if 2

A

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1d ice | 4e runner |
| 2f (old) socks | 5a old woman |
| 3b applause/clapping | |

B

- | | |
|--------|-------------------|
| 1 like | 3 — |
| 2 like | 4 as if/as though |

C

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 smells like | 3 sounds like | 5 looks as if/as though |
| 2 tastes | 4 sounds as if/as though | |

32 Modal verbs 1

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1 Could/Would | 5 should/could |
| 2 could/might | 6 could |
| 3 could | 7 could/might |
| 4 would | 8 would |

33 Modal verbs 2

A

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| 1 a | 2 b | 3 b | 4 a | 5 b | 6 a |
| 7 a | 8 b | 9 b | 10 a | | |

B

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|
| a 7 | b 8 | c 3 | d 4 | e 10 | f 5 |
| g 6 | h 9 | | | | |

C

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1 should | 5 could |
| 2 could, might | 6 would |
| 3 should | 7 would |
| 4 could | 8 could, might |

34 Modal verbs 3

A

- 1 Will you have to find a job there?
- 2 Will you have to learn Spanish while you're there?
- 3 Will you be able to go camping in the countryside?
- 4 Will I/we be able to write to you?
- 5 Will you be able to drive a car there?
- 6 Will you have to have lots of injections?
- 7 Will you be able to come home if you really want to?

B

- 1 do you have to be/must you be
- 2 can vote/will be able to vote

3 will have to start

4 won't be able to go

5 won't have to pay

6 must keep/have to keep

7 can do/will be able to do

8 will have to see

35 Modal verbs 4

A

- 1 won't be able to
- 2 can't

B

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1 a X b ✓ | 4 a X b ✓ |
| 2 a X b ✓ | 5 a ✓ b ✓ |
| 3 a ✓ b ✓ | |

C

- | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 b | 2 a | 3 c | 4 d |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|

36 Modal verbs 5

A

- 1 could/might even have died
- 2 should have listened
- 3 should have checked
- 4 shouldn't go
- 5 could/might easily have missed
- 6 would have been
- 7 would know
- 8 could learn/would learn
- 9 should have taken
- 10 should have told
- 11 shouldn't have gone out
- 12 would have been
- 13 should have known
- 14 could/might still catch

B

- 1 would have done it.
- 2 shouldn't have bought them.
- 3 couldn't have stolen it.
- 4 might/could have taken it/the plane.
- 5 should have rung her.

37 Modal verbs 6

A

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 2 have gone | 6 have fallen/fall |
| 3 have lent | 7 have grown |
| 4 find/have found | 8 have looked |
| 5 have finished | 9 have stopped |

B

- 1 would have been
- 2 could/might have finished
- 3 should have dug
- 4 would certainly have finished
- 5 would/might/could have fallen
- 6 should have finished
- 7 could move

38 Modal verbs 7

A

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 b | 2 a | 3 b | 4 a | 5 a | 6 b |
| 7 a | 8 b | | | | |

B

- | | | | | | |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1 b | 2 a | 3 a | 4 b | 5 a | 6 b |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|

C

- Possible endings: 1 b 2 a 3 a, b 4 a, b
 5 a 6 a 7 b

39 Modal verbs 8

A
1 b, d, g, k 2 e, h, j 3 a, c, f, i

B
1 b 2 a 3 d 4 e 5 c 6 h
7 f 8 g 9 j 10 i 11 k

40 Modal verbs 9

A
1 a) might/could c) will
b) won't d) might/could
2 a) could/might c) can't
b) could/might d) must
3 a) can't have have c) might have/could
b) might have/could have d) must have
4 a) must have have c) could have/might
b) can't have have d) could have/might

B
1 could, might 5 must have
2 must 6 can't have, couldn't have
3 can't, couldn't 7 could have, might have
4 could, might

41 Modal verbs 10

A
1 heard/could hear 6 climbed
2 couldn't phone 7 couldn't start
3 decided 8 found
4 could swim/swam 9 began
5 managed to swim 10 managed to row

B
1 b 2 b 3 b 4 a

42 Modal verbs 11

A
1 b 2 a 3 b 4 a 5 a 6 b
7 a 8 b

B
3 is not correct.

C
1 correct 2 ... she managed to cycle ...
3 correct 4 correct
5 correct 6 ... she could cycle ...

43 Passives 1

2 I'm afraid it's been stolen.
3 I'm afraid it's going to be demolished.
4 I'm afraid it's been burgled.
5 I'm afraid it'll be enlarged.
6 I'm afraid it's being diverted.
7 I'm afraid it's been knocked down.
8 I'm afraid it's thrown away.
9 I'm afraid it hasn't been built yet.
10 I'm afraid she's being interviewed.

44 Passives 2

A
1 b 2 a 3 a 4 b 5 a 6 b
7 b 8 a

B
1 a 2 b 3 b 4 a 5 b 6 a
7 b 8 a 9 a 10 b

45 Passives 3

A
1 a 2 a 3 b
B
1 They stole \$500 000
2 they are painted
3 she was examined (by a doctor)

46 Passives 4

A
4 It (the film) 7 The film
5 Ms O'Neill's costumes 8 It (the film)
6 Her dresses

B
4 It was directed by Luca Lopez and produced by Pablo Mendes.
5 Ms O'Neill's costumes are said to be outstanding.
6 Her dresses were specially designed by Gocci.
7 The film has already been nominated for several awards.
8 —

C
1 pasta 5 China 9 Italy
2 Italy 6 He 10 it
3 Marco Polo 7 discovery 11 Italy
4 it 8 pasta 12 China

47 Past and present

A
1 did you notice
2 are you shaving
3 have you been waiting
4 have you done
5 were you driving
6 do you meet

B
1 was living
2 realised
3 had been
4 was climbing
5 saw
6 had been drawn
7 was
8 recognised
9 was
10 began
11 have been haunting/have haunted
12 used to sacrifice/sacrificed

48 Pasts 1

1 had driven/ 17 wasn't
had been driving 18 had
2 could 19 came
3 got 20 was waiting
4 checked 21 didn't look
5 had not returned 22 saw
6 went 23 had told
7 went 24 gave
8 heard 25 drank
9 wondered 26 felt
10 had followed 27 fell
11 waited 28 killed
12 was 29 said
13 left 30 wasn't
14 was 31 had confessed
15 had gone 32 had hidden
16 slipped

49 Pasts 2

A
1 b 2 a 3 a 4 b 5 b 6 a
7 a 8 b 9 a 10 b

B
1 they had been driving 3 had worked
2 had been deserted 4 died

C
1 same 3 different
2 different 4 same