The Basics of Modals

modals
She may be late.
modal + base
(Infinitive w/o to)
She must study

phrasal modals
You are supposed to wear a seat belt.

Students study.
Students should study.
Students may study.
Students are supposed to study.
Students can study.
Polite Requests

nicely asking someone to do something with or for you!

"I"

polite permission

May I > sit here?

Could I > borrow your pen?

might I sit here?)

rare, very formal

Can I borrow your book?

less formal, a little less polite.

informal request: Would you buy me lunch, please?

Will you -> a little bit less polite:

Could you -> OK (ability)

Can you -> less formal

Answers: Certainly -> formal

Sure -> informal
polite request:
Would you mind + gerund
Would you mind *loaning* me $100? $100 → no, here's $100.

permission:
Would you mind if I *smoked* here?

Do you mind if I smoke here?
(less polite)
Necessity / Lack of Necessity / Prohibition / Advisability

telling people what to do, what not to do, or expressing your opinion!

- obligation
  - it’s necessary
  - official
  - have to
  - must

- not necessary
  - but optional
  - don’t have to
  - must not

- not allowed

- advice
  - it’s a good idea
  - should
  - shouldn’t
  - ought to
  - had better
  - carries a warning

- less formal
  - more personal
Advice for coming to USA:

- You should bring winter clothes.
- You shouldn't bring a lot of stuff with you.
- You should know English before you come.
- You ought to call your family when you arrive so they don't worry.

- You had better bring a jacket.
- You'd better be quiet.
- You'd better hurry up.

By spoken, less formal threat, warning.
**Necessity/Obligation**

- You must finish your paperwork before you come.
- You must have a ticket to get on a plane.
- You are supposed to have a license before driving a car.

**- expectation**

**- rule/law**

I have to get up at 6:00 to get everyone ready for school. **- personal obligation**

I have to stop at the bank before class. **- necessity**
must not = not allowed
You must not smoke in the classroom.
You must not attend classes without paying.
You must not bring your children to class.

not have to = not necessary
You don't have to put your food away before riding the bus.
You don't have to take classes next quarter.
You don't have to study.
You don't have to take your children trick or treating.

should not
You should not cheat on the test.
You should not miss a lot of classes.
You shouldn't give your children pizza every day.
You didn't turn in your writing assignments.
You __________________________ give me all your assignments last week!

I ______________________________ turn in all my assignments, teacher, but I had to work all weekend.

I ______________________________ finished my assignments. Now I don't know if I'll pass my class.
Regrets, I've had a few

I regret staying up late last night.
I should have gone to bed early last night.
Should not have stayed up so late.

I should have studied Spanish when I was in school.

I should have finished school before I got married.

I should have taken a TOEFL class before I came here.
I shouldn't have come here!

You should have called me!

I should have married before I came here.
hindsight is 20/20.

Looking back to the past, it's easy now to
know what decision we should have made.
Should have + past participle

Useful for making apologies....

I'm sorry ...
- I shouldn't have yelled at you for stepping on my toe.
- I shouldn't have called you in the middle of the night to tell you about my grammar test.
- I should have let you know that I couldn't give you ride to work today.
- I should have told you that I borrowed $20 from your wallet.
- I shouldn't have told your son what you bought him for his birthday.

I'm so sorry!
Unfulfilled Intentions: was / were going to

I am going to meet my classmates for lunch after class. = intention (plan) for future activity

I was going to meet my classmates for lunch after class, but I forgot to bring money. =

I had the intention (a plan) to meet my friends for lunch, but, because I forgot to bring money I didn't meet them for lunch.

1. I was going to take ESLX 0142 next quarter, but my advisor recommended that I take a writing class instead.

2. I was going to order pumpkin pie for dessert, but my friend reminded me that I was on a diet.

3. I was going to finish my grammar workbook assignment, but I fell asleep at my desk.

Compare with: was / were supposed to = unfulfilled expectations
should (not) have + past participle = mistake, regret
was going to
I was going to visit my grandparents this weekend, but my work schedule changed.

was supposed to
We were supposed to have a test today, but the teacher said that we could have another day to study.

should have + past participle
I should have bought those shoes while they were on sale.
Making suggestions... Let's get started!

Let's meet after class for coffee.

Why don't we meet after class for coffee?

Shall we meet after class for coffee?

*We are all going out together this weekend. What should we do? Make suggestions....*
What should I do?
Using could and would to make suggestions and give advice

**Could**
- to make suggestions
- offer possibilities

**Should**
- gives definite advice
- "best choice"

*I'm having trouble paying my rent. Do you have any advice for me?*
Progressive Modals: in progress right now

It's midnight. I call Cindi. She is watching TV and eating chocolate. This isn't good for her!

Why? My guesses:
• She must be putting off her homework.
• Her children must be sleeping.
• She could be practicing listening in English.

My advice:
Right now,
• She should be sleeping.
• She shouldn't be eating so much chocolate.
Ability: *Can* and *Could*

**CAN**
- I can run very fast.
- I can see your house from mine.
- I can speak four languages.
- You can call me after 8 a.m. (informal permission)

**COULD**
- When I was a child, I could play all day, but now I can't. I have to work.
- I couldn't finish all the workbook exercises last night.

When I was a child, ......
What could you do as a child that you can't do now?

When I was a child, I could __________________.
Past habits: *would* and *used to*

When I was a child, I used to spend every summer with my grandparents.

When I was a child, I would spend every summer with my grandparents.  
(repeated actions in the past)

I used to smoke, but I quit in 2001.

They used to live next door to me.  
(past situations)
I'd rather be anywhere than here!

...using *Would Rather* to express a preference

I'd rather eat pizza than potatoes.

I'd rather not tell you how old I am.

I'd rather be speaking my native language right now!
Chapter 11: The Passive

Active vs. Passive (11-1)
Tense Forms of the Passive (11-2 & 4)
Participial Adjectives (11-8)