

## The modal auxiliaries

### I. Ability (können)

#### Forms:

I **can** help him

I hope I'll **be able** to help him.

I **couldn't** help him.

I **haven't been able to** help him.

I **could have helped** (would have been able to help) him.

(= hätte ... können)

The missing forms of **can/could** are supplied by **to be able to**.

#### Put in the correct expressions for German "können".

1. This year I \_\_\_\_\_ (not) go to Scotland, but I \_\_\_\_\_ go there next year.
2. Grandma \_\_\_\_\_ (not) leave the house for weeks. (*present perfect*)
3. Mother \_\_\_\_\_ (find) the ring if she had looked for it.
4. Last year my little niece (Nichte) \_\_\_\_\_ (not) walk.
5. He \_\_\_\_\_ (not) come today, but he \_\_\_\_\_ come tomorrow.
6. The policeman said that he \_\_\_\_\_ (not) help the people in the burning car. (*past perfect*)
7. If he had run, he \_\_\_\_\_ (catch) the bus.
8. She was embarrassed (es war ihr peinlich) because she \_\_\_\_\_ (not) finish her work in time. (*past perfect*)
9. We hope he \_\_\_\_\_ solve the problem (das Problem lösen) as soon as possible. (*future*)
10. I \_\_\_\_\_ (give) you the money if you had asked me.
11. Next year little Andrew \_\_\_\_\_ swim.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ repair my car. (*present perfect*)
13. The driver \_\_\_\_\_ get out of the car before it sank in the river. (*past.perf.*)
14. As a girl she \_\_\_\_\_ play the piano well.
15. As she worked hard, she \_\_\_\_\_ pass her exams.

## II. Obligation and Necessity ('müssen')

positive:		negative:
He <b>must</b> work.	(Present)	He <b>needn't</b> work.
He <b>has (got) to</b> work.	(Present)	He <b>doesn't have to</b> work.
He <b>has had to</b> work.	(Present Perfect)	He <b>hasn't had to</b> work.
He <b>had to</b> work.	(Simple Past)	He <b>didn't have to</b> work.
He <b>had had to</b> work.	(Past Perfect)	He <b>hadn't had to</b> work.
He <b>will have to</b> work.	(future)	He <b>won't have to</b> work.

### Fill in the correct form of German 'müssen`.

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ go home now; I'm tired.
2. He said that he \_\_\_\_\_ go home because he was tired.
3. John \_\_\_\_\_ always get up at seven.
4. She \_\_\_\_\_ do all the work by herself for years. (*pres. perf.*)
5. She said that she \_\_\_\_\_ do all the work by herself for years. (*past perfect*)
6. When (you) \_\_\_\_\_ sit for your exam? (*future*)
7. She is short-sighted (*kurzsichtig*); she \_\_\_\_\_ wear glasses.
8. You \_\_\_\_\_ ring him up as soon as possible.
9. Yesterday I \_\_\_\_\_ ring him up twice.
10. We \_\_\_\_\_ be at the party by eight.
11. We \_\_\_\_\_ clean our shoes before we entered the house.
12. If your eyes get worse, you \_\_\_\_\_ wear glasses. (*future*)
13. I \_\_\_\_\_ go at once. I \_\_\_\_\_ be at the meeting at 5 o'clock.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ (you/ever) to make up your mind? (*sich entscheiden*)
15. When we went on board the plain we \_\_\_\_\_ (carry) our suitcases ourselves.
16. You \_\_\_\_\_ (take off/not) your shoes.
17. We \_\_\_\_\_ (to cook not) for ourselves in our last holidays.
18. When \_\_\_\_\_ (you/be) home? (*future*)

### III. Permission ("dürfen")

<b>may I? &gt; am I allowed to</b>	-	darf ich?
<b>I was allowed to</b>	-	ich durfte
<b>I won't be allowed to</b>	-	ich werde nicht ... dürfen
<b>I have been allowed to ...</b>	-	ich habe gedurft

**Put in the correct expressions for German "dürfen".**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I come in? - Yes, you \_\_\_\_\_.
2. He asked if he \_\_\_\_\_ come in.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ I use your phone?
4. You \_\_\_\_\_(not) take your dog into the park without a lead.
5. During our holidays our children \_\_\_\_\_ stay up till 10 o'clock.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ I smoke in here? - No, you \_\_\_\_\_(not).
7. I \_\_\_\_\_ use the phone. (*simple past*)
8. You \_\_\_\_\_(not) smoke in here.
9. The children \_\_\_\_\_(not) play football for months. (*present perf.*)
10. The children told me that they \_\_\_\_\_(not) play football for months. (*past perfect*)
11. You \_\_\_\_\_(not) speak with your mouth full.
12. Yesterday the prisoners \_\_\_\_\_ go for a walk in the yard.
13. Students \_\_\_\_\_(not) stay out later than 12 o'clock.
14. \_\_\_\_\_ I make a suggestion? (Dürfte ich vielleicht...?)
15. Dürfen wir heute länger aufbleiben?
16. Wir werden lange auf ihn warten müssen.
17. Du darfst das nicht so ernst nehmen!
18. Wir werden (wohl) nicht allein in die Stadt gehen dürfen.