Y5 Modal Verbs

KS2 Y5 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Order from least to most certain: might, will, should

Step 1 · Least certain

might (it's possible)

Step 2 · Middle

should (it's likely)

Step 3 · Most certain

will (it's certain)

Answer: might, should, will

Check: Say each one in 'It ___ rain' and listen.

2. Now try one with the steps

Rewrite 'It is going to rain' using an adverb to show you're not sure

Step 1 · Choose an adverb of low or medium possibility

Step 2 · Add it to the sentence

Answer:

3. Practice

Have a go at each one. There is space underneath to work it out.

1. Write out the modal verb: 'We could go swimming.'

2. Write out the adverb of possibility: 'Maybe the shop is closed.'

3. Which is more certain: 'She could be at home' or 'She must be at home'?

4. Fill the gap with a modal showing weak possibility: 'It ___ rain later.'

5. Fill the gap with a modal showing obligation: 'You ___ wear a helmet on a bike.'

6. Rewrite 'Perhaps she is ill' using a modal verb instead.

7. Order from least to most certain: definitely, possibly, probably

8. Add an adverb to make it certain: 'Our team will win.'

9. Explain the difference between 'You should tidy your room' and 'You must tidy your room'.

10. Rewrite to sound less certain: 'The museum will be open.'

11. Which modal shows something is impossible: 'That ___ be true!'

12. Use a modal verb and an adverb of possibility together in one sentence about tomorrow.

13. Why might a scientist write 'This could be a new species' rather than 'This is a new species'?

14. In a persuasive leaflet, why might a writer use 'You will definitely love it'?

4. Before you hand it in

'I should of done it.'
I should have done it. (also could have, would have, must have)

Using must for something only possible: 'It must rain on Saturday.'
It might rain on Saturday.

Doubling up opposites: 'It will possibly definitely happen.'

Choose one level: 'It will definitely happen' or 'It might possibly happen'.

Thinking 'perhaps' and 'maybe' are verbs

Modal verbs (might, should) go before a verb; adverbs (perhaps, surely) can move around the sentence.