

**LIBRO Y ACTIVIDADES DE INGLÉS**

# **ESPA/ESPAD MÓDULO II**

**Curso 2024-2025**



**BLOQUE 2  
CAN  
USO DE  
MODALES**

# VERBOS MODALES

## ¿Qué es un verbo modal en inglés?

Los llamados *modal verbs* en inglés, los auxiliares modales son [verbos](#) especiales muy frecuentes en inglés. Son útiles para determinar el marco de una acción: posibilidad, obligación, capacidad, necesidad, permiso, prohibición, sugerencia, inferencia, certeza, etc.

En resumen: es esencial dominarlos para entender la gramática inglesa, ya que los modales permiten enunciar información esencial con muy pocas palabras.

## ¿Cuáles son las principales características gramaticales de los auxiliares modales?

Los *modal verbs* no son verbos como los demás: no tienen infinitivo, ni imperativo, ni forma -ING, ni terminación en 3ª persona del singular. Son una especie de “súper” verbos irregulares.

## ¿Cómo conjugar los modales?

La **conjugación de los verbos modales** es especial porque estos **auxiliares** no tienen:

- ni **infinitivo**: nunca diremos *to can*
- ni imperativo: nunca se exigirá que alguien *Can!*
- ni forma **-ING**: nunca se usa *He's caning*
- ni terminaciones en la 3ª **persona del singular**: nunca escribirías *He cans*

**LO QUE HAY QUE TENER EN CUENTA ES QUE SIEMPRE IRÁN SEGUIDOS DE OTROS VERBO, SALVO QUE YA HAYA SIDO NOMBRADO Y HECHO REFERENCIA A ÉL.**

- I can't speak German.
- I **can** ||| I love speaking German.

## ¿Cuáles son los auxiliares modales en inglés?

La lista de modales en inglés consta de muchos verbos que hay que conocer, pero en este curso vamos a trabajar con cuatro.

1. **Can**: poder o saber

2. **Could**: pasado del saber o condicional  
(podría, podrías...)

3. **Should**: dar consejo: *deberías, deberíamos, deberían...*

4. **Must**: Deber, obligación: *debes, debo, debemos...*

# ¿Cómo se forma una frase afirmativa, interrogativa o negativa con modales?

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## Frases afirmativas

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### sujeto + modal + infinitivo sin "to"

**My sister can play football on Monday.** Mi hermana puede jugar a football

**He must wear the safety belt.** = Debe llevar el cinturón de seguridad.

**They should eat healthy food**= Deberían comer sano

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## Frases interrogativas

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### modal + sujeto + infinitivo sin "to"

**Can you call me this afternoon?** = ¿Puedes llamarme esta tarde?

Advertencia: como **los modales** nunca se usan con el auxiliar **do**, nunca debes escribir: ~~**Do you can?**~~

**Must he go to the meeting?** = No debe llevar el cinturón de seguridad.

**Should I eat any special things?**= ¿Debería comer cosas especiales?

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## Frases negativas

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### sujeto + modal+ n´t (not) + infinitivo sin "to"

**I cannot believe it! = I can't believe it !** = ¡No puedo creerlo!

**He mustn't wear the safety belt.** = No debe llevar el cinturón de seguridad.

**They shouldn't eat junk food**= No deberían comer comida basura

# 1. CAN

- Capacidad de hacer algo, lo traducimos por **SABER**
- Posibilidad de hacer algo, lo traducimos por **PODER**

I **can** swim. = Sé nadar.

I **can** swim on Sunday morning. = Puedo nadar el domingo por la mañana.

## 1º USO. HABILIDAD PARA HACER COSAS.

- Con el can expresamos lo que sabemos y no sabemos hacer, la habilidad o no habilidad de hacer algo. Se traduce por saber o no saber.
  - I can read fast. \_\_\_\_\_
  - My sister can climb a mountain. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Can your mother make chocolate cakes? Yes, she can \_\_\_\_\_
  - He can speak four languages. \_\_\_\_\_
  - My ex-boyfriend can't cook. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Can you drive a bus? No, I can't \_\_\_\_\_
- Se utiliza con los deportes y con los instrumentos musicales
  - My brother can play basketball. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Your friend can't play tennis. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Can you play chess? \_\_\_\_\_
  - I can't play the piano. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Andrea can play the guitar. \_\_\_\_\_
  - Can your friend Paul play the trumpet? \_\_\_\_\_
  - \_\_\_\_\_

# CAN/CANT

With Animals!

 Lions \_\_\_\_\_ run fast.

 Monkey \_\_\_\_\_ sing.

 The tortoise \_\_\_\_\_ climb trees.

 Tigers \_\_\_\_\_ eat pizza.


 Elephants \_\_\_\_\_ fly in the sky.

 The octopus \_\_\_\_\_ swim in the water.


 Dogs \_\_\_\_\_ talk to humans.

# CAN ON CANT


**Simon**




**Sarah**



**Dave**



**Rosy**



**Fill in the blank spaces.**

- Can Sarah play the guitar?  
No, she \_\_\_\_\_.
- Can Simon drive?  
Yes, he \_\_\_\_\_.
- Can Dave and Rosy swim?  
No, they \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sarah paint?  
Yes, she can.
- Can Simon ride a horse?  
\_\_\_\_\_, he can't.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sarah play volleyball?

## 2º USO. POSIBILIDAD DE HACER ALGO O PROHIBICIÓN PARA HACERLO..

El can en **AFIRMATIVA**: permite hacer algo, en **NEGATIVA**, te lo prohíbe y en **INTERROGATIVA**: te pide permiso para hacer algo, o pregunta si se puede hacer algo.

- You can go to the park.
- She can't go to the disco tonight.
- Can I play with you?
- My daughter can't go out.
- Dogs can't fly, birds can.
- You can smoke only in this area.
- Sorry, I can't help you.
- Can you pass me the bread, please? Yes, I can.
- Can I go out next Saturday? No, you can't.
- Can you tell me the time, please? Yes, I can.
- Can your sister tell me the way to the train station? No she can't. But my friend can.
- Can you spell this word? Yes, I can. T-R-E-E

## 2.COULD

*Could* es el **pretérito** de *can*: *could*, por tanto, expresa las mismas ideas, pero con mayor cortesía, MÁS FORMAL.

### Capacidad

- **Could you bring me a salad, please?**
- **Of course.**

## 3.SHOULD

### Predicción

*That should be enough to buy a bus ticket.*

→ Eso debería ser suficiente para comprar un billete de autobús.

### Consejo, recomendación, sugerencia

*You should eat healthy food* → Deberías comer comida saludable.

*Marta should study more.* → Marta debería estudiar más.

## 4.MUST

### Obligación

*I must go.* → Tengo que irme.

*You must wear the safety belt when you drive.*

## Modales en inglés: tabla recapitulativa

¿Quieres saber de un vistazo **cómo elegir el modal inglés adecuado**? Consulta nuestra tabla para no cometer errores

Verbo modal	Uso	Formas negativas	Observaciones
<b>Can</b>	→ Capacidad → Posibilidad, hipótesis	<b>can not / cannot / can't</b>	
<b>Could</b>	→ Capacidad → Posibilidad, hipótesis	<b>could not / couldn't</b>	Pretérito de <i>can</i>
<b>Should</b>	→ Predicción → Consejo, recomendación, sugerencia → Obligación, reproche, arrepentimiento	<b>should not / shouldn't</b>	
<b>Must</b>	→ Obligación → Probabilidad	<b>must not / mustn't</b>	Modal con significado parecido a <i>to have to</i>

1. For each sentence, choose the modal (should, can, must) that is most appropriate.

1. She looks very sick. I think she \_\_\_\_\_ go to a doctor.

- a) should      b) can      c) must

2. You' are driving all day. You \_\_\_\_\_ be exhausted!

- a) should      b) must      c) can

3. You \_\_\_\_\_ smoke so much. It's bad for your health.

- a) can't      b) shouldn't      c) mustn't

4. Hey I'm lost. \_\_\_\_\_ you help me?

- a) Can      b) Should      c) Must

5. You have a beautiful voice. You \_\_\_\_\_ sing for us!

- a) should      b) can      c) must

6. I know he speaks five languages, but \_\_\_\_\_ he speak Chinese?

- a) should      b) can      c) must

7. You \_\_\_\_\_ remember to send that e-mail. It's very important!

- a) should      b) must      c) can

8. I \_\_\_\_\_ believe that you failed your test!

- a) can't      b) shouldn't      c) mustn't

9. I \_\_\_\_\_ come to your house in about 10 minutes. I'm really fast!

- a) should      b) can      c) must

10. I \_\_\_\_\_ afford that. It's too expensive.

- a) can't      b) shouldn't      c) mustn't



b) Fill in the gaps with CAN, CAN'T, MUST, MUSTN'T, SHOULD or SHOULDN'T.

(= Rellena los huecos con CAN, CAN'T, MUST, MUSTN'T, SHOULD o SHOULDN'T)

1. We  talk when the teacher is explaining something.
2. You  use a dictionary to do this exercise if you like.
3. I  play a musical instrument, I have a really bad ear.
4. I think you  take more exercise and watch less TV.
5. The baby is sleeping, so we  make any noise.
6. He  be at home, because the light is on.
7. Leopards  climb trees, but cheetahs .
8. We  help children in poor countries.
9. You  make fun of your friends.
10. I  study a lot this week, because I have two exams.
11. Young people  sleep for at least 8 or 9 hours.
12. We  cut down trees, because they attract rain.
13. We  eat too much sugar in our diet.
14. The doctor says that I  stop smoking right now.
15.  we look for the information on the Internet?



Choose the right option.

# Can, Must, Should

1. Steven ... play the drums really well.

- a) Can't
- b) Can
- c) must



8. This is dangerous. They ... sit down.

- a) Can
- b) should
- c) mustn't



15. ... you drive a tractor? No, because I'm 16!

- a) Can
- b) Must
- c) Should



2. You ... be quiet because dad is taking a nap.

- a) Can't
- b) must
- c) shouldn't



9. Sam ... protect his skin with some sun cream.

- a) should
- b) must
- c) Can



16. He ... make you an amazing tattoo now.

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) shouldn't



3. Arthur ... go shopping. His fridge is empty!

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) shouldn't



10. My sister Amanda ... bake delicious biscuits.

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) should



17. You ... take your umbrella in trip to London.

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) should



4. Tim ... eat two ice creams. It's not a good idea.

- a) mustn't
- b) Can't
- c) shouldn't



11. Your cousin ... surf very well. And you?

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) should



18. Drivers ... stop because the kids are crossing.

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) should



5. You ... eat much fast food every day.

- a) Can't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't



12. Remember that you ... take a selfie in class.

- a) Can't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't



19. Ben, you ... drive if you are drunk. It's illegal!

- a) Can't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't



6. You ... be afraid, Peter.

- a) Can't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't



13. Sheila ... play the bassoon at all!

- a) Can't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't



20. My neighbour ... be on a diet. She's too fat!

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) should



7. Wow! Nadia ... speak eight languages.

- a) Can
- b) must
- c) should



14. Freddy ... sleep. He has a very important exam.

- a) Can't
- b) mustn't
- c) shouldn't



21. You ... see well, Samuel. Wear your glasses!

- a) Can
- b) Can't
- c) should



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c) Choose the correct option.

1. You  water these plants, they are dying.
2. You don't eat enough vegetables, you  try to eat more.
3. You  wear a seatbelt when you are driving a car, but you  wear a helmet on your head.
4. You  be so lazy, your sister is doing all the work!
5. I have a lot of pending homework, I really  start working right now!
6. Sorry to leave so early, but we really  go. We  drive to the airport to pick up my son in an hour.
7. You  never get in a stranger's car.
8. I  buy some more lettuce for the salad, but there are enough tomatoes, so I  buy any more.
9. You  smoke in a public building.
10. Your English marks are really low, you  ask your teacher for help.

2. Ahora, escribe las siguientes frases en inglés:

- Mi amiga sabe hablar dos idiomas.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- ¿Puedes decirme la hora, por favor?

- \_\_\_\_\_

31

- ¿Puedes pasarme la mantequilla, por favor?

- \_\_\_\_\_

- Mi hermano Paco no sabe montar en bici.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- No se puede comer en este espacio.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- Ellos saben jugar al tenis, no saben jugar a *paddle*.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- No puedo verte porque eres una mala persona.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- ¿Puede tu amiga traerte a mi casa esta noche?

- \_\_\_\_\_

- Nuestra hermana no sabe cocinar.

- \_\_\_\_\_

- ¿Puedo salir esta noche con mis amigos?

- \_\_\_\_\_

. Vamos a realizar un ejercicio,  
escribiendo las **normas de clase**  
utilizando CAN/SHOULD/MUST y sus  
formas negativas.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_