Modal verbs (modals) are verbs that add the meaning of logical possibility, ability, necessity, and permission to verbs, which have a degree of strength from stronger to weaker. Modals come heir subject in

plural agreement, so there is no need to add an - or - ending to a modal. Modals will often be seen in sentences that are predicting a future possibility, describing an ability, giving advice, making requests, or asking for permission. The nine most common modals are **can**, **could**, **shall**, **should**, **will**, **would**, **may**, **might**, and **must**.

Use	Modals	Examples	
Logical	Must (Most Certain)	The dark clouds must mean rain today.	
Possibility	Will	Due to the news, the stock will go down.	
	Would	The chemical would help the experiment.	
	Should	The case should prevent cracking.	
	May	This change may improve the results.	
	Can	Being careless can have bad consequences.	

Verbs: Modals, Fall 2021.