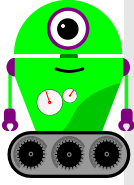


Degrees of Possibility using Adverbs and Modal Verbs



Adverbs modify words like verbs and they can tell us how likely something is to happen e.g. never, always or perhaps. Modal verbs show likelihood, ability, permission or obligation and they work with another verb. Common modal verbs include can, could, will, would, may, might, shall, should, must and ought.

1) Underline the adverbs to show possibility in the sentences below.

Perhaps we will go to the woods later if it doesn't rain.

Visiting Africa for a safari holiday is definitely something I would like to do.

Our grandparents will possibly come and stay with us next weekend.

The horse has a good lead in the race so surely it will win.

If the football team win the league they will certainly be promoted.

The parcel will probably be delivered in the morning.

2) Underline the modal verbs in the sentences below. Some sentences have more than one.

We will warm up before exercising to help prevent injury.

We ought to go home before it gets too dark.

Everyone must buy a ticket before arriving at the concert.

Our teacher may help us complete the science investigation.

You shouldn't have fizzy drinks too often as they can cause tooth decay.

You should wear a coat because it might rain and you could get wet.

3) Add suitable modal verbs to complete the sentences below.

I _____ play cricket when I've had my dinner.

We _____ learn our spellings so that we do well in the test.

Ahmed _____ swim very well but his younger sister _____.

Your story is good but you _____ make it even better.

The children _____ try to talk quietly in the library.

