MANAGING MODALS

Modal verbs are helping/auxiliary verbs that give additional information about the function of the main verb that follows. They express attitudes such as ability, possibility, permission, and suggestion.

* e.g., Students should start working on essays early. (suggestion)
* e.g., They must buy their tickets today. (necessity)
* e.g., She may be sick. (possibility)

**Modals in the English Language**

![Hexagons with modal verbs](image)

**How to Use Modals**

1. **Never use –s, –d, or –ing endings with modals**
   
   * e.g., Participants can respond to the questionnaire at their own pace.

2. **Use the infinitive without to after modals (except in ought to)**
   
   * e.g., Participants might to be unsure of what the question is asking.

3. **Use inversion to turn a sentence that uses a modal into a question**
   
   **Sentence using a modal:**
   
   * e.g., Participants can be between the ages of 13-15.

   **Question using a modal:**
   
   * e.g., Can participants be between the ages of 13-15?

4. **Add not after the modal to make it negative**
   
   * e.g., They could not understand the research question.

5. **Never use two modals together**
   
   * e.g., The treatment group might could demonstrate a different response from the control group.
## Modal Tenses

| **Simple Modals** | Show present or future time | modal + base form  
| \[e.g., We \textbf{can} study \textit{now}. \textit{(present)}\]  
| \[e.g., He \textbf{should} leave \textit{soon}. \textit{(future)}\] |
| **Progressive Modals** | Express an activity in progress at the moment of speaking  
| Show an action in progress at a specific time in the future | modal + be + present participle  
| \[e.g., They \textbf{must} be sleeping. \textit{(present progressive)}\]  
| \[e.g., She \textbf{should} be leaving \textit{soon}. \textit{(future progressive)}\] |
| **Perfect Modals** | Express a past action | modal + have + past participle  
| \[e.g., I \textbf{should} have \textit{studied} \textit{last night}. \textit{(present perfect)}\] |
| **Perfect Progressive Modals** | Express an activity in progress at a specific time in the past | modal + have been + present participle  
| \[e.g., You \textbf{might} have been \textit{sleeping} \textit{when I called}. \textit{(present perfect progressive)}\] |