

# Grammar 1

Modals of ability and possibility, obligation and prohibition

ability and possibility	
present	past
<i>can / can't</i> + infinitive I / You <b>can speak</b> He / She <b>can speak</b> We / You / They <b>can speak</b>	<i>could / couldn't</i> + infinitive I / You <b>could speak</b> He / She <b>could speak</b> We / You / They <b>could speak</b>
obligation and prohibition	
present	past
<i>must / mustn't</i> + infinitive; <i>have to</i> + infinitive I / You <b>have to speak</b> He / She <b>has to speak</b> We / You / They <b>have to speak</b>	<i>had to</i> + infinitive I / You <b>had to speak</b> He / She <b>had to speak</b> We / You / They <b>had to speak</b>
no obligation	
present	past
<i>don't have to</i> + infinitive I / You <b>don't have to speak</b> He / She <b>doesn't have to speak</b> We / You / They <b>don't have to speak</b>	<i>didn't have to</i> + infinitive I / You <b>didn't have to speak</b> He / She <b>didn't have to speak</b> We / You / They <b>didn't have to speak</b>

- 1** Complete the sentences with *can / can't* or *could / couldn't*.
- You \_\_\_\_\_ use my phone if you need to ring your parents.
  - I \_\_\_\_\_ access my email yesterday because I didn't have an internet connection.
  - It was raining heavily last weekend so we \_\_\_\_\_ go on our school trip.
  - You \_\_\_\_\_ get a credit card because you're already in debt!
  - I \_\_\_\_\_ wear my own clothes when I was in primary school, but now I wear a uniform.

- 2** Complete the sentences with *mustn't* or *don't have to*.

**1** We \_\_\_\_\_ finish it today – we can do it tomorrow.

**2** You \_\_\_\_\_ drink that – it's very bad for you!

**3** You \_\_\_\_\_ touch that – it's very hot!

**4** You \_\_\_\_\_ tell me about it if you don't want to.

- 3** Circle the correct answer.

- We missed the bus, so we ... call a taxi.  
 a) have to      b) had to      c) must
- You ... wear a suit for this job – everyone normally wears jeans.  
 a) don't have to      b) have to      c) had to
- I broke my leg when I was a child and I ... walk for six weeks.  
 a) could      b) can't      c) couldn't
- You ... always find a wifi hotspot in town – there are lots of cafés with free internet.  
 a) can      b) can't      c) could

- 4** Complete the sentences with the verbs in the box.

didn't have to    had to    have to    must

- We finished school at 2pm yesterday because my teacher \_\_\_\_\_ leave early.
- You \_\_\_\_\_ open a bank account in your own name.
- It's not fair! My parents \_\_\_\_\_ study as much as I do when they were young.
- You \_\_\_\_\_ study hard if you want to become a doctor.