WALT: Identify modal verbs and understand their importance in establishing certainty or possibility.

Verbs - Recap

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- A verb is a doing word; they show action or a state of being.
- The verb is usually performed by the subject of the sentence.
- For example:

Action Verbs	State Verbs
Ella quickly ran home.	I am very tired today.
The cauldron bubbled loudly.	We have PE every Tuesday
Rain-filled clouds drifted past.	Harry is a chatterbox.

- Modal verbs are placed before the main verb and show how certain or possible something is.
- For example:

Learn is the main verb

it's what you're doing now!

You will learn everything you need to about modal verbs today.

Will is a modal verb – it shows that I am certain you will learn about modal verbs today.

• The modal verbs are:

will	can	shall	may	must
would	could	should	might	ought

Can you sort the modal verbs into those which indicate certainty and those which indicate possibility?

TIP
If you're finding
it tricky, put the
modal verb into
a sentence.

will

can

Certainty **Possibility**

might

could

shall

must

would

ought

should

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	Certainty	Possibility		could
	will			
	can		_ [shall
			\dashv_{\vdash}	must
				would
		might		ought
may	<u> </u>	63	sl	nould

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Certainty	Possibility	could
will	may	
can		shall
		must
		would
	might	ought
		should

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Verbs

How does changing the modal verb change the meaning of the sentence?

Sentence	Meaning
Livia may eat her broccoli.	Livia has a choice – she may eat it, she might not – it's up to her to decide.
Livia <mark>should</mark> eat her broccoli.	It's not still not certain but Livia has less of a choice. 'Should' suggests that there is a strong reason for her to eat the broccoli.
Livia shall eat her broccoli.	Livia is going to eat the broccoli.
Livia must eat her broccoli.	Livia is going to eat it. 'Must' suggests that there may be negative consequences if she doesn't!

Can you identify the modal verbs in these sentences?

- Your must eat all your vegetables if you want pudding.
 Your must eat all your vegetables if you want pudding.
- Josh hoped he could finish the game before his mum turned off the Xbox.
 - Josh hoped he **could** finish the game before his mum turned off the Xbox.
- I would like to come tomorrow, if that's still okay?
 I would like to come tomorrow, if that's still okay?

- Modal verbs have a positive and a negative form.
- For example:



Can you change the modal verbs in these sentences so that they are negative?

- You must touch the big red button.
- I would recommend broccoli sandwiches.
- Oliver may be able to finish on time.
- Fish should be left out of water.
- Ava can remember where she put her headphones.
- "I will take your half of the chocolate bar," Ralf promised.

Can you change the modal verbs in these sentences so that they are negative?

- You mustn't touch the big red button.
- I wouldn't recommend broccoli sandwiches.
- Oliver may not be able to finish on time.
- Fish shouldn't be left out of water.
- Ava can't remember where she put her headphones.
- "I won't take your half of the chocolate bar," Ralf promised.

For each sentence decide whether the modal indicates certainty or possibility.

Sentence	Certainty / Possibility
You will do your homework.	Certainty
Miss Fenton can ice skate.	Certainty
I might be able to come on Thursday.	Possibility
Mr Bartlett won't be pleased to see this mess.	Certainty
It could rain at the weekend.	Possibility
It may not be ruined.	Possibility