Modal verbs exercises with answers: can, must, should

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Choose the right option

Anna can _____ three languages.

a) to speak b) speaks c) speak

2. Fill in the gaps

My phone didn't work yesterday, so I _____ _____ you.

Words: can't / couldn't / called / to call / call

3. Type the answer using the hint

Could _____ (you / help) me with my bag, please?

4. Choose the right option

You look tired. You should _____ to bed early.

a) go b) to go c) goes

5. Find the mistake and write the sentence correctly

You mustn't touch the cat, and your brother mustn't plays with it.

_____

6. Match the pairs: sentence and reply

1. Would you like some tea? ___	a) A sandwich, please
2. Do you like tea? ___	b) Yes, I do
3. Does Anna like coffee? ___	c) No, she doesn't
4. What would you like? ___	d) Yes, please

7. Choose the right option

_____ touch the plate. It's very hot!

a) Not b) Don't c) No

8. Fill in the gaps

_____ you _____ a cake? Yes, I can.

Words: Can / to make / Are / make / Do / makes

9. Type the answer using the hint

When my grandmother was young, she _____ (can / speak) three languages.

10. Put the words in order

Ask for some water in a cafe

has / I / water, / please / have / to / Can / some

Not all words are needed.

11. Find the mistake and write the sentence correctly

You should read this book, and your brother should watches the film.

12. Build the sentence for this situation

Tell your friend that swimming is not allowed here

mustn't / here / swims / swim / You / to

Not all words are needed.

13. Choose the right option

_____ a cup of coffee, please.

a) I will b) I'd like c) I like

14. Make it negative

Close the door.

door / close / closes / the / No / Don't / Not

Not all words are needed.

15. Type the answer using the hint

Tom is only five, but he _____ (can / swim) very well.

16. Put the words in order

Say you were not able to open the window yesterday

to / the / yesterday / can't / I / open / window / couldn't

Not all words are needed.

17. Find the mistake and write the sentence correctly

Can I sit here? Could you opened the window, please?

18. Build the sentence for this situation

Tell Tom it's a good idea to call his mum

You / your / to / mum / call / calls / should

Not all words are needed.

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19. Choose the right option

You must _____ your ticket to the driver.

a) shows b) to show c) show

20. Make it more polite

Do you want some juice?

juice / like / likes / Are / some / Would / to / you

Not all words are needed.

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21. Choose the right option

It's a nice day. _____ go to the park.

a) Let b) Let's to c) Let's

22. Put the words in order

Say that your dad is a bad swimmer

not / to / can't / My / swim / swims / very / dad / well

Not all words are needed.

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23. Find the mistake and write the sentence correctly

When I was five, I could read, and my sister could wrote.

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24. Build the sentence for this situation

Ask Tom politely to open the window

window / you / to / opens / the / open / Could

Not all words are needed.

Answers

Modal verbs exercises with answers: can, must, should

1. **speak**
   After *can* we use the infinitive: *speak*, not *speaks* or *to speak*.

2. **couldn't ... call**
   Yesterday shows the past, so we use *couldn't*, not *can't*. Then the infinitive *call*, not *called*.

3. **Could you help me with my bag, please?**
   In a request, *you* comes after *could*. Then the infinitive *help*, with no *-s*.

4. **go**
   After *should* we use the infinitive: *go*, not *to go*.

5. **You mustn't touch the cat, and your brother mustn't play with it.**
   After *mustn't*, use the infinitive without *-s*, even with *he*. Compare: *you mustn't touch*.

6. **1 d, 2 b, 3 c, 4 a: Would you like some tea? – Yes, please; Do you like tea? – Yes, I do; Does Anna like coffee? – No, she doesn't; What would you like? – A sandwich, please**
   We answer *Would you like* with *Yes, please*, and *Do you like* with *do*: *Yes, I do*. To *What would you like*, say what you want.

7. **Don't**
   To tell someone not to do something, start with *Don't*, not *Not* or *No*.

8. **Can ... make**
   The short answer has *can*, so the question starts with *Can*, not *Do*. After *can*, use the infinitive *make*.

9. **When my grandmother was young, she could speak three languages.**
   When my grandmother was young shows the past, so we use *could* instead of *can*. Then the infinitive *speak*.

10. **Can I have some water, please?**
    You ask for something for yourself: *Can I*. After *Can I*, use the infinitive *have*, not *has*.

11. **You should read this book, and your brother should watch the film.**
    After *should*, use the infinitive without *-s*, even with *he*: *watch*.

12. **You mustn't swim here.**
    Not allowed = *mustn't*. After *mustn't*, use the infinitive *swim*, without *to* or *-s*.

13. **I'd like**
    To ask politely for something, we use *I'd like*. *I like* is about what you enjoy.

14. **Don't close the door.**
    To tell someone not to do something, put *Don't* before the infinitive *close*. Don't start with *Not* or *No*.

15. Tom is only five, but he can swim very well.

After *can* we use the infinitive *swim*. There is no *-s* or *to*, even with *he*.

16. I couldn't open the window yesterday.

Yesterday shows the past, so we use *couldn't*, not *can't*. Then the infinitive *open*, without *to*.

17. Can I sit here? Could you open the window, please?

In a request, *could* is not past. After it we use the infinitive: *open*, not *opened*.

18. You should call your mum.

This is advice, so we use *should*. After *should*, use the infinitive *call*, without *to* or *-s*.

19. show

After *must* we use the infinitive: *show*, not *to show* or *shows*.

20. Would you like some juice?

A polite offer starts with *Would you like*. After *would*, *like* has no *-s*, and there is no *to* before a noun.

21. Let's

To suggest doing something together, use *Let's* (*let us*), not *Let*. The infinitive comes right after it, without *to*.

22. My dad can't swim very well.

We talk about ability with *can*, so we say *can't swim very well*. After *can't*, *swim* has no *-s* and no *to*.

23. When I was five, I could read, and my sister could write.

After *could* we use the infinitive: *write*. *Could* already shows the past, so not *wrote*.

24. Could you open the window?

A polite request starts with *Could you*. After *could*, use the infinitive *open*, with no *-s* and no *to*.