



# Chapter 6

# Going Places

Competencies	Grammar
<p>Describing Local Transportation</p> <p>Comparing Forms of Long-Distance Travel</p> <p>Avoiding Travel Mistakes</p> <p>Understanding Car Advice</p>	<p>Simple Modal Verbs</p> <p>Continuous Modal Verbs</p> <p>Perfect Modal Verbs</p> <p>Summary of Modal Verbs</p>

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**A Competency-Based Grammar 5**  
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## PART ONE / Simple Modal Verbs

### • Describing Local Transportation



To test your grammar, rewrite this story, correcting the underlined errors. You can compare your work with the correct story in Appendix A on page 208. If you made more than one or two mistakes, study the grammar explanations and complete the exercises in Part One.



### Transportation Problems

I may never forgetting the day of December 21, when the local “rapid transit” company went on strike. Of course I couldn’t getting to the restaurant where I work by bus that evening. “I mustn’t being late, and I can’t missing work,” I thought. “My supervisor would furious. Of course I rather not spend money on a taxi, but...I guess I better call one.”

"We can't promised you a cab right away," said a polite voice on the telephone. "But if you'd was willing to wait, we might was able to send over a driver after about 10:00. Shall I putting you down on our list?"

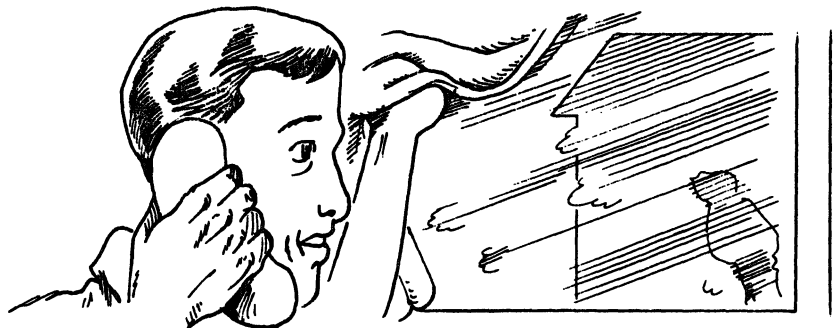
"You must very busy tonight because of the bus strike," I said. "Sorry, but I can't not wait that long. It should wasn't be difficult to get a ride with a neighbor."

But it was. My next door neighbor's car would didn't start, and no one else could took the time to give me a ride. "Can I to lend you my bicycle?" offered one friend. "Would you to like to borrow my motorcycle?" asked another. "You could to walk," suggested a third, "but may I can give you some advice? You'd better to bundle up—it's freezing cold out."

It was a bitterly cold evening, and a blizzard was starting up as I set out to walk to work. "I could tried to hitchhike," I thought. "No driver would to pass up a hitchhiker on a night like this."

But few of the cars on the road could saw me in the blizzard. After a few blocks, I was frozen stiff and afraid I will slip on the ice. "I'd had better turn back," I thought. "Even my boss not would want me to end up in the hospital from frostbite."

As soon as my fingers had thawed out, I called the restaurant to tell my supervisor that I wouldn't was able to come in to work that evening. "The manager?" said the waitress who had answered the phone. "She not could make it tonight—transportation problems."



### Simple Modal Verbs

A simple modal verb phrase consists of a modal (*can, could, will, might, should, etc.*) and a simple verb form (without endings). In most questions with modal verbs, the modal precedes the subject. Tag questions and short answers to *yes/no* questions may include modals. The same modal can have various meanings, and you can use different modals to express the same meaning.

You **can't** get to work, **can** you? No,  
I **can't**.  
**Can** they ride with you?

You can use *can* to express a present or future ability or permission. *Can't* = *cannot*.

I **couldn't** take the bus last night,  
and no one **could** drive me.  
**Could** you help her?

You can use *could* to express past ability or permission. *Couldn't* = *could not*.

**Will** you give me a ride? Yes, I  
**will**. **Would** you call a cab for  
me? **Could** you lend me your  
bicycle? **Can** we ask a favor?  
**May** I borrow your motorcycle?

In questions, you can use *will, would, can, or could* to make requests. In questions with *I* or *we*, *can* and *may* express requests for permission.

(Why didn't Pita come to work?)  
He **may be** sick. He **might not**  
**have** a means of transportation.  
He **couldn't be** out of town,  
**could** he? (I just saw him.)

With nonaction verbs, *may (not), might (not)*, and *could* express present or future possibility. *Couldn't* may express present impossibility.

If you take a taxi, you **may save**  
time, but you **might get** stuck in  
traffic. You **could walk** to work,  
but you **may not arrive** on time.

With action verbs, *may (not), might (not)*, or *could* can express future possibility (guesses about the future).

It's the first day of the bus strike,  
so the taxi companies **must have**  
a lot of business. There **must not**  
**be** any available cabs.

With nonaction verbs, *must* or *must not* (but not *mustn't*) can express deductions about the present (probability). *Must* is used rarely for deductions with the simple form of action verbs.

You **must find** a way to get to  
work, and you **mustn't be** late.  
I **must get** a ride.

With action verbs, *must* usually expresses obligation (*have to*). In the negative, you can use *mustn't* or *must not*.

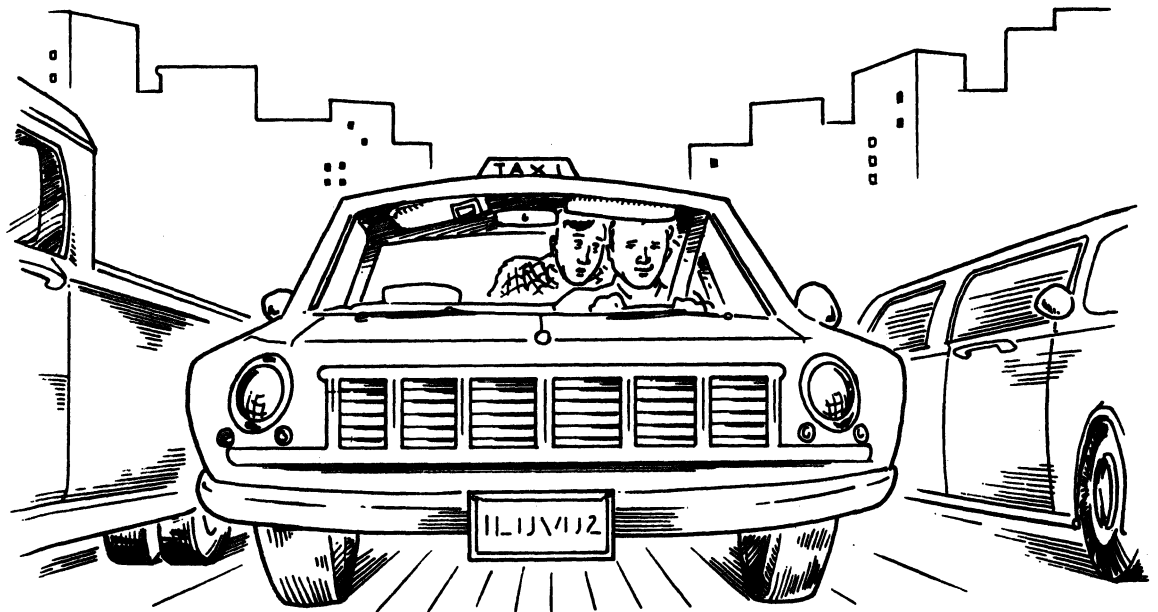
**Shall** we walk? **Shall** I call a cab?  
What **shall** we do?

You can use *shall* in questions with *I* or *we* to make suggestions or ask advice.

*continued on next page*

Simple Modal Verbs (*continued*)

<p>You <b>should</b> be able to get a ride with a coworker. You <b>shouldn't</b> have a problem.</p>	<p>With nonaction verbs, <i>should</i> expresses present or future expectation. <i>Shouldn't</i> = <i>should not</i>.</p>
<p>In my opinion, you <b>shouldn't</b> buy a car. You <b>should</b> walk for exercise. It <b>shouldn't</b> take long to get to work.</p>	<p>With action verbs, <i>should(n't)</i> expresses future advisability, advice, or expectation.</p>
<p><b>Hadn't</b> you better bundle up if you're going out? You'd <b>better</b> be careful. You'd <b>better not</b> catch cold. In fact, I'd better give you a ride, <b>hadn't</b> I?</p>	<p><i>Had better</i> expresses strong advice or warnings. In statements, you can form contractions with <i>had</i> and subject pronouns (Examples: I'd, we'd, he'd). <i>Hadn't</i> = <i>had not</i>.</p>
<p><b>Would</b> you be willing to wait for a cab? No, I <b>wouldn't</b>. What <b>would</b> you do in my situation? I'd ask a friend for a ride, but I <b>wouldn't</b> hitchhike.</p>	<p><i>Would</i> expresses an action or condition that might (not) occur in a hypothetical (contrary-to-fact) situation. You can form contractions with <i>would</i> and subject pronouns (Examples: we'd, she'd). <i>Wouldn't</i> = <i>would not</i>.</p>
<p><b>Would</b> you like to go by subway? I'd like a new car. We'd <b>rather</b> take a bus (than walk). What <b>would</b> you <b>rather</b> do?</p>	<p><i>Would</i> appears in some common idioms that express desire or preference: <i>would like</i>, <i>would rather</i> + VERB.</p>



# A. Choose the correct word or words from each pair of items in brackets.

On the first day of the bus strike, I <sup>1.</sup> [ can't/couldn't ] get to work because I <sup>2.</sup> [ couldn't/may not ] get a ride. It looked like the strike <sup>3.</sup> [ can/might ] last a while.

On the second day, I said to Corazon, "You <sup>4.</sup> [ may/shall ] be able to get a ride to work with a coworker, but what <sup>5.</sup> [ can/would ] I do? We <sup>6.</sup> [ can't/may not ] get along without my pay. I <sup>7.</sup> [ may/must ] find a way to get there!"

"On a warm evening, you <sup>8.</sup> [ shall/could ] walk or ride a bicycle to work," Corazon said, "but you <sup>9.</sup> [ might not/shouldn't ] try it in this weather because you <sup>10.</sup> [ should/could ] catch pneumonia. I know you <sup>11.</sup> [ had/'d ] like to save money, but I think you <sup>12.</sup> [ might/'d ] better take a taxi. <sup>13.</sup> [ Shall/Would ] we call the Purple Cab Company? Their rates <sup>14.</sup> [ may/shall ] be the lowest in town."

"I'd <sup>15.</sup> [ like/rather ] to go to 39th and Main," I told the cab driver that evening.

"That <sup>16.</sup> [ shouldn't/mightn't ] take too long, <sup>17.</sup> [ should/might ] it? And <sup>18.</sup> [ would/may ] I make a request? <sup>19.</sup> [ Would/May ] you try a shortcut? It <sup>20.</sup> [ would/must ] save us time."

The traffic was bumper to bumper, and at times we <sup>21.</sup> [ shouldn't/couldn't ] move at all. We arrived at 39th and Main two hours later. "Forty dollars, please," said the driver.

I <sup>22.</sup> [ wouldn't/couldn't ] believe my ears. "Why, I <sup>23.</sup> [ better/could ] fly to New York for that price," I said, "and the flight <sup>24.</sup> [ can/would ] take less time than this taxi ride."

"True," said the driver good-naturedly. "But to get to the airport, you <sup>25.</sup> [ 'd/should ] have to take a taxi."





**B.** Choose words and complete these sentences with information of your own about local transportation.

1. In the city | I | can  
| we | could  
| you | should  
| | 'd better  
| | must

2. If you travel by \_\_\_\_\_, you | may not  
| might not  
| shouldn't  
| had better not  
| mustn't

3. I'd | like to  
| rather

**\*C.** Complete these questions about local transportation with the words from the box. Answer them with information of your own.

can	could	might	must	should	would
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1. What means of transportation \_\_\_\_\_ you take to school?
2. How \_\_\_\_\_ you rather get around (by bus, by subway, etc.)?
3. If you take the bus, what \_\_\_\_\_ happen?
4. What \_\_\_\_\_ some advantages of a bicycle be?
5. If you drive, what \_\_\_\_\_ you remember?
6. What \_\_\_\_\_ you do if you decide to take a taxi?
7. \_\_\_\_\_ you ride a motorcycle? Why or why not?
8. What kind of transportation \_\_\_\_\_ you recommend? Why?

**D.** Now test your grammar again. Correct the mistakes in the story you rewrote, "Transportation Problems."

## PART TWO / Continuous Modal Verbs

### • Comparing Forms of Long-Distance Travel



To test your grammar, rewrite this story, correcting the underlined errors. You can compare your work with the correct story in Appendix A on page 208. If you made more than one or two mistakes, study the grammar explanations and complete the exercises in Part Two.



### The "Rules" of Bus Travel

During winter vacation, we were sitting around one day when Flora mentioned that we could being spending our time in more interesting ways. "For instance, we couldn't be travel—seeing the sights, get to know the country?" she suggested.

"Yes, we are," I answered decisively. "What we'll be doing by tomorrow morning? We'll leaning back in a luxurious cross-country bus, admire the scenery and enjoying ourselves."



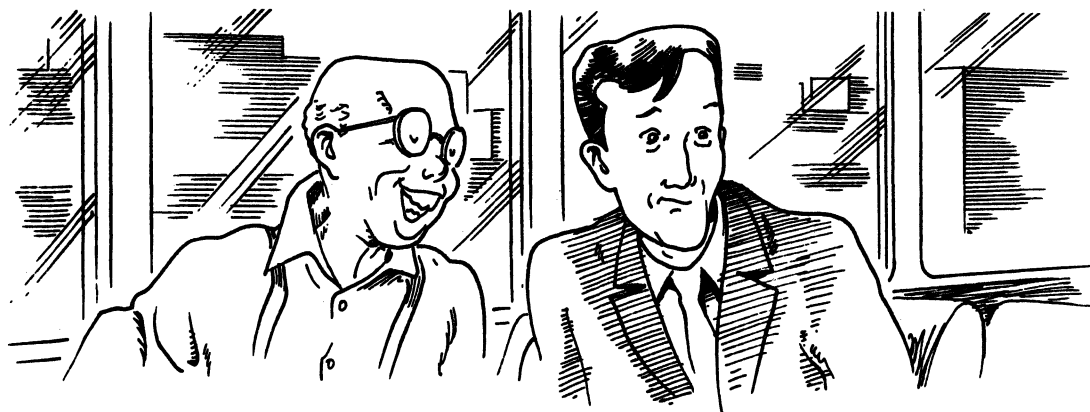
Very early the next day, Corazon and Flora took two seats together in the crowded bus, and I looked around for a seatmate who seemed quiet. "That woman over there with a notebook maybe studying. And that teenager with the earphones must listening to tapes," I thought. While I was trying to make up my mind, passengers were boarding the bus behind me, so I quickly sat down next to a pleasant-looking old gentleman.

He never stopped talking. "You must have taking a vacation trip," he deduced. "You should reading some travel brochures, mustn't you? You know, we mightn't be stopping for lunch for three hours or so. It's hot in here, isn't it? But the driver should must turning down the heat soon."

At every brief stop passengers hurried off the bus. "They're must be planned to continue the trip," I commented, "because they've left all their belongings on their seats."

"You must be new to bus travel," answered my seatmate. "They'll might be to check that their bags are still in the luggage compartment or they've could be hurry to the restroom. When we get to our lunch stop, won't be rushing you to get in the cafeteria line?"

He was right. "The hardest part," I thought, "is finding a comfortable position to sit in. On a train we not be having these problems." Bus travel might be interesting, but Corazon, Flora, and I were very glad to get off when we'd finally reached our destination.



### Continuous Modal Verbs

A continuous modal verb phrase consists of a modal (*could, will, won't, should, etc.*) before *be* and an *-ing* verb with an action meaning. In most questions with modal verbs, the modal precedes the subject. Tag questions and short answers may include modals.

**What will we be doing** tomorrow at this time? By 8:00 our family **will be sitting** in a comfortable bus, **admiring** the scenery.

The future continuous tense (*will/won't be + VERBing*) emphasizes the continuation of future action, usually around a specific future time.

**I'll be worrying** about our luggage, and we'll all **be looking** forward to our lunch stop. We **won't be sleeping**, will we?

In statements, you can form contractions with *will* and subject pronouns (Examples: I'll, they'll, he'll). *Won't = will not.*

We **may be stopping** soon for lunch. The driver **might not be planning** to turn down the heat. He **couldn't be getting** tired. (We just started the trip.)

A continuous phrase with *may (not), might (not), or could* expresses present possibility (guesses about the present). *Couldn't* may express present impossibility.

Your seatmate **must not be feeling** very well. (He's taking a tablet for motion sickness.)

A continuous phrase with *must (not)* expresses deduction about the present (probability).

We **shouldn't be complaining** so much, **should** we? We **should be sitting** back and **enjoying** the ride.

A continuous phrase with *should(n't)* expresses present advice that is not being followed (the opposite of the actual situation) or expectation.

**Shouldn't we be arriving** at our destination soon? Yes, we **should**.

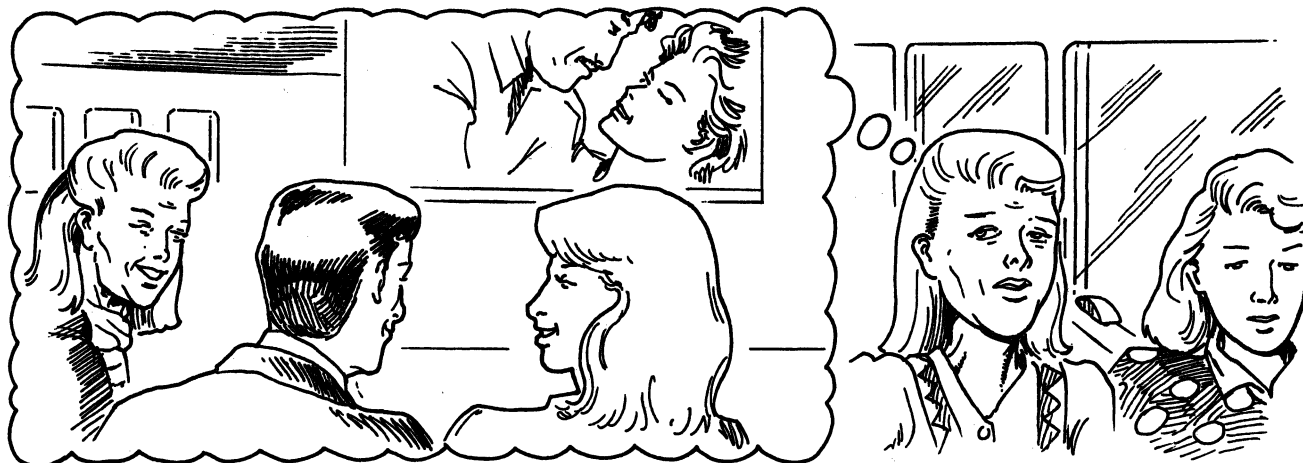
(We're in a bus.) In a train, we **wouldn't be feeling** so uncomfortable, **would** we? **Would** we be **enjoying** ourselves? Yes, we **would**.

A continuous phrase with *would* expresses an action or condition that might (not) be occurring in a hypothetical (contrary-to-fact) present situation.



**A. Choose the correct word or words from each pair of items in brackets.**

It isn't easy to get comfortable on a long-distance bus trip. While they were traveling by bus, Pita was thinking, "[Should/Ought]<sub>1.</sub> we be [take/taking]<sub>2.</sub> a train instead? Perhaps we [should/ought]<sub>3.</sub>. Right now we [can/could]<sub>4.</sub> be [stretch/stretching]<sub>5.</sub> out in big reclining seats. On a train we [won't/wouldn't]<sub>6.</sub> be [worry/worrying]<sub>7.</sub> about our luggage at rest stops, [will/would]<sub>8.</sub> we? We [shall/could]<sub>9.</sub> [be/being]<sub>10.</sub> eating a meal in the dining car, and we [I'll/d]<sub>11.</sub> [be/been]<sub>12.</sub> enjoying the scenery at the same time, [would/wouldn't]<sub>13.</sub> we? Of course Corazon and Flora [might not/mightn't]<sub>14.</sub> [be/will be]<sub>15.</sub> thinking the same thing. They [can/may]<sub>16.</sub> [be/have]<sub>17.</sub> having a good time right now."



**B. Make sentences with continuous modal phrases from these words.**

While they were traveling by bus, Corazon was saying to herself,

1. "I shouldn't / think this, but wouldn't we / enjoy ourselves more in a plane?  
*I shouldn't be thinking this, but wouldn't we be enjoying ourselves more in a plane?*
2. In a jet, we might / eat a hot meal now, and maybe we'd / watch a movie.
3. We wouldn't / pass such ugly scenery, / we?
4. We might not / sit in comfortable seats, but the trip wouldn't / take so long.
5. Of course I'd probably / worry about the luggage we checked.
6. And in bad weather, I might / get nervous and / imagine a plane crash."

**\*C. To express your opinions of different means of long-distance travel, complete these sentences.**

Pretend you're riding on a bus. What are you probably thinking?

1. "I should be \_\_\_\_\_, shouldn't I?
2. At this moment we could be \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The other passengers must be \_\_\_\_\_,  
and they might be \_\_\_\_\_."

Pretend you're riding in a train. What are you probably thinking?

4. "In a few hours, this train will be \_\_\_\_\_, won't it?
5. Should I be \_\_\_\_\_?
6. In a plane, we'd be \_\_\_\_\_, wouldn't we?"

**D. Now test your grammar again. Correct the mistakes in the story you rewrote, "The 'Rules' of Bus Travel."**

## PART THREE / Perfect Modal Verbs

### • Avoiding Travel Mistakes



To test your grammar, rewrite this story, correcting the underlined errors. You can compare your work with the correct story in Appendix A on page 209. If you made more than one or two mistakes, study the grammar explanations and complete the exercise in Part Three.

#### Air Travel Mistakes

We've just returned from a vacation trip that shouldn't be cost so much. If we'd known the "rules" of budget air travel, we would having saved money. For example, I should have reserve our tickets months in advance in order to get the lowest rates—there must has been only a limited number of those "bargain" seats. And I could of paid for the tickets right away, could I? Well, I didn't, and we had to pay 10 percent more than we expected. The airline must have raise their prices.

I might of known the airline would lose one of Flora's bags. I watched the agent put tags on all our luggage when we checked it, so he not could have put it on the wrong plane. But they maybe not have transfer her suitcase from one terminal to another when we switched planes at our stopover.

If we'd planned our trip more carefully, we would be able to take a direct flight instead of a connecting one. And we should had taken our necessities and a change of clothing with us on the plane. Then I wouldn't had to buy Flora those new outfits and other things. If we can have proven the value of the lost bag, the airline might have paying us the legal limit for it. Why didn't Flora keep a detailed list of its contents in her wallet? She should. In fact, we all must have done a lot of things differently....

If I keep thinking this way, in a little while I'll thought of all the reasons why we shouldn't have took a trip in the first place.

### Perfect Modal Verbs

A perfect modal verb consists of a modal (*may, might, etc.*) before *have* and before a past participle. In most questions with modal verbs, the modal precedes the subject.

By the end of our trip, we'll <b>have traveled</b> 10,000 miles. How many photographs <b>will we have taken</b> ?	The future perfect tense ( <i>will/won't + past participle</i> ) emphasizes the completion of future activity, usually before a specific future time.
We <b>may have missed</b> our flight already because the plane <b>might not have arrived</b> late as we expected. But what <b>could we have done</b> about the traffic? We <b>couldn't have arrived</b> any earlier.	A perfect phrase with <i>may (not), might (not), or could</i> expresses past possibility (guesses about the past). <i>Couldn't</i> expresses past impossibility.
(The plane isn't here yet.) There <b>must have been</b> a delay.	A perfect phrase with <i>must (not)</i> expresses a deduction about the past (probability).
I <b>shouldn't have taken</b> so much luggage along. I <b>should have packed</b> only one bag and <b>carried</b> it on the plane with me.	A perfect phrase with <i>should(n't)</i> expresses past advice that wasn't followed (the opposite of the actual situation).
I <b>would have booked</b> a direct flight but I didn't have a choice. We <b>wouldn't have had</b> a stopover.	A perfect phrase with <i>would(n't)</i> expresses an action or condition that might (not) have occurred in a hypothetical (contrary-to-fact) past situation.

### A.

Choose the correct word from each pair of items in brackets.

We <sup>1.</sup> [ must/~~should~~ ] have <sup>2.</sup> [ find/~~found~~ ] out the "rules" of air travel before we went on our trip. Then we <sup>3.</sup> [ might/~~can~~ ] have <sup>4.</sup> [ have/~~had~~ ] a better time. For example, we <sup>5.</sup> [ not/~~wouldn't~~ ] have <sup>6.</sup> [ was/~~been~~ ] so uncomfortable on the plane if we'd sat in the first row of a section or just behind an exit, <sup>7.</sup> [ don't/~~would~~ ] we? And Corazon <sup>8.</sup> [ might/~~will~~ ] not have <sup>9.</sup> [ got/~~gotten~~ ] airsick during that storm if we'd asked for a row in the middle of the plane, far away from the smoking section.

How <sup>10.</sup> [ could/couldn't ] we <sup>11.</sup> [ be/have ] avoided losing Flora's suitcase? Well, perhaps we <sup>12.</sup> [ not/shouldn't ] have <sup>13.</sup> [ checking/checked ] it through to our final destination. We <sup>14.</sup> [ maybe/might ] <sup>15.</sup> [ have/had ] claimed it during our stopover and then <sup>16.</sup> [ recheck/rechecked ] it onto our connecting flight. I promise that before our next trip, I <sup>17.</sup> [ will/would ] <sup>18.</sup> [ have/had ] taken care of details like this.

**B.**

**Pretend that you have had a terrible time on a trip because you didn't follow any of the "Tips for Air Travelers" that follow. Complete these sentences in different ways.**

**EXAMPLE:** 1. We could have gotten lower rates, but we didn't because we didn't know we were going until the week before the trip.

1. We could have \_\_\_\_\_,  
but we didn't because \_\_\_\_\_.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ must have \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Maybe I should have \_\_\_\_\_,  
and I shouldn't have \_\_\_\_\_.
4. We would have \_\_\_\_\_,  
but we couldn't because \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Tips for Air Travelers

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To get the lowest possible fares, you might want to reserve your plane tickets as far in advance as possible. You won't have to pay for them right away, but be sure to protect yourself against a price increase.</li> <li>2. You can try to pack lightly so you can carry your bag onto the plane with you if possible.</li> <li>3. If you have to check your luggage, remove all old baggage claim checks. You should put your name and address and your destination address inside each suitcase. It may be better to put a business address on the outside than a home address.</li> <li>4. Lock your suitcases so they won't open accidentally. You could also mark them with something noticeable, like a bright-colored ribbon, so they won't be picked up by another traveler with the same kind of luggage.</li> <li>5. You should make a list of the contents and the value of each bag. Keep the list with you, separate from the luggage.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. When you check your bags, make sure that the baggage claim checks show the correct flight number and destination.</li> <li>7. Take medicine and other necessities (and perhaps a change of clothing) onto the plane with you in a small bag.</li> <li>8. To reduce the risk of lost luggage, avoid flights that involve a change of planes. Try to book direct flights.</li> <li>9. After the flight, get to the baggage claim area quickly. If any of your bags don't appear, notify the baggage-service personnel immediately and fill out the necessary forms.</li> <li>10. If you have homeowner's or apartment insurance, you might find out if it covers loss or damage to baggage when you travel. If it doesn't and the contents of your suitcases are very valuable, you can purchase additional insurance to cover the amount beyond the liability limit set by federal law.</li> </ol> |
|---|---|



**\*C.**

Using perfect modals when appropriate, talk about some trips you have taken in the past. Tell what you should (might, would) have done differently if you could have. Ask for and give travel advice.

**EXAMPLE:** We drove across the country, and I think we should have flown. On a plane, we wouldn't have had to repair a flat tire in the rain, had an accident in a traffic jam, and lost our way. Of course, we could have planned better, but...

**D.**

Now test your grammar again. Correct the mistakes in the story you rewrote, "Air Travel Mistakes."



## PART FOUR / Summary of Modal Verbs

### • Understanding Car Advice

Simple, Continuous, and Perfect Modal Verbs	
You <b>can</b> borrow my car this afternoon. But <b>can</b> you give me some advice? How <b>can</b> I get better gas mileage? You <b>can</b> save money if you keep the air pressure in the tires high.	<i>Can</i> is most common before a simple verb form, often in a question. It expresses permission, ability, and requests.
We <b>couldn't</b> afford a big car, but I <b>could</b> get a loan for this small one. <b>Could</b> you look at it?	With a simple verb, <i>could(n't)</i> can express past ability, permission, and requests.
To save on fuel, we <b>could have</b> bought a car with a diesel engine. That car <b>couldn't be</b> a diesel. (The owner is buying gasoline.)	In a simple, continuous, or perfect verb phrase, <i>could</i> can express possibility and <i>couldn't</i> expresses impossibility.
How <b>will</b> you take care of your car? <b>Will</b> you check the oil and the battery regularly? You'll avoid trouble if you do. I'll check it every week.	With a simple verb, <i>will/won't</i> expresses future activity, requests, promises, or determination.
I <b>won't be</b> washing the car this afternoon. What <b>will</b> you be doing? <b>Will</b> you have tuned up the engine by then?	In a continuous or perfect verb phrase, <i>will/won't</i> is part of the future continuous or future perfect tense.
<b>Would</b> you recommend a sports car? I'd like a convertible. <b>Wouldn't</b> you?	With a simple verb, <i>would(n't)</i> appears in requests and common idioms.
What <b>would</b> you do in my position? I <b>would have</b> put chains on the tires, or I <b>wouldn't be</b> driving on icy streets.	In a simple, continuous, or perfect verb phrase, <i>would(n't)</i> indicates an action or condition in a hypothetical situation.
<b>Shall</b> we go for a ride? <b>Shall</b> I stop for gas now or later? Where <b>shall</b> we get it?	Use <i>shall</i> only in questions with <i>I</i> or <i>we</i> to ask about advisability or to make a suggestion.
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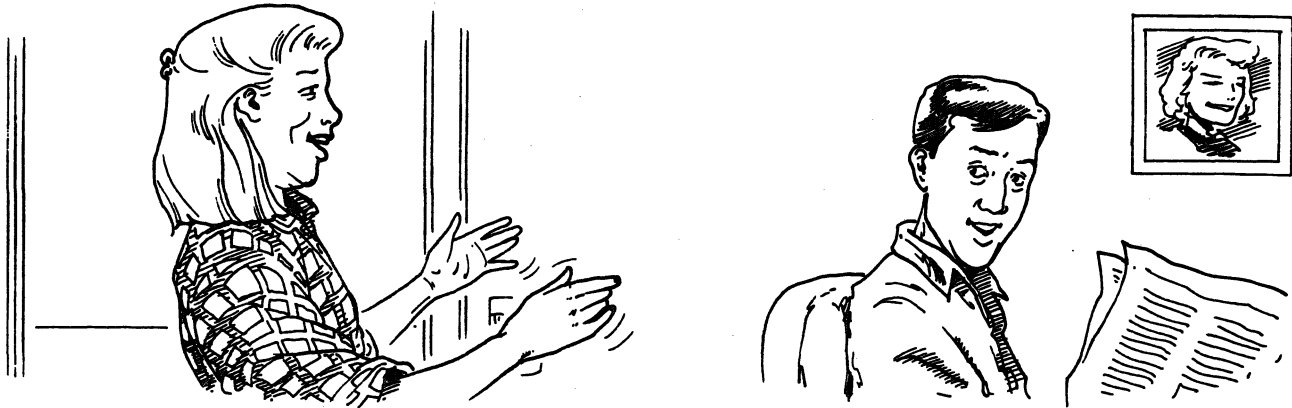
Simple, Continuous, and Perfect Modal Verbs ( <i>continued</i> )	
You <b>should</b> rotate your tires regularly so that they wear evenly. We <b>shouldn't</b> have bought whitewall tires two years ago, and I <b>should</b> be looking for new ones now.	With a simple verb, <i>should(n't)</i> expresses advisability, advice, or expectation. In a continuous or perfect verb phrase, <i>should(n't)</i> indicates advice not taken.
<b>May</b> I make a suggestion? Of course you <b>may</b> . You <b>may not</b> have needed power steering in your last car, but you <b>may be</b> making a mistake if you don't get it now.	With a simple verb, <i>may</i> can express permission. In a simple, continuous, or perfect verb phrase, <i>may (not)</i> can express possibility.
Dark-colored cars <b>might not</b> be safe in poor driving conditions. Yellow <b>might</b> be the safest color.	In a simple, continuous, or perfect verb phrase, <i>might (not)</i> expresses possibility.
If your car overheats, you'd <b>better</b> turn off the air conditioner.	With a simple verb, <i>had better</i> expresses strong advice or a warning.
You <b>mustn't</b> drive too fast, and you <b>must</b> observe traffic laws. He <b>must (not)</b> drive to work every day.  The driver who had the accident <b>must</b> have been drunk. He <b>must</b> be spending the night in jail.	With a simple verb, <i>must</i> and <i>mustn't</i> can express obligation. <i>Must</i> and <i>must not</i> can express deduction.  In a continuous or perfect verb phrase, <i>must</i> expresses deduction.

A.

Complete these sentences with the appropriate modals from the box. There may be several correct answers, but try to choose the best one and use a variety of forms. If there are two blanks together, add *have* or *be* in the second one.

can	had better	might	should
could	may	shall	would

"We 1. can 't get around by bus or taxi all the time," said Corazon one weekend. "We 2.                       avoided a lot of problems during the bus strike if we'd had a car, you know. In fact, it's a beautiful day, and we 3.                       taking a drive in the country right now. And for long-distance travel, a car 4.                       be cheaper than a train or plane."



"Right!" responded Flora enthusiastically. "What kind of car                      we  
get? I                      like a sports car.                      you rather have a foreign or a  
domestic one? And                      n't a convertible be nice?"

"We                      learn about cars and driving before we make a decision," said  
Pita. "By the time we sign papers, we                      done all the  
necessary research. Look—we                      start by reading this list of tips for  
motorists."

## B.

Complete these sentences with the appropriate modals and forms of the verbs under the lines. If more than one modal is correct, try to choose the best one.

### Tips for Motorists

- If you financed your last car through the dealer, you should n't have. You  
1.                      have                      a better deal from a bank or a credit union.  
2. get
- If you purchased a factory-installed radio with a new car, it                      not  
3. be  
have                      the best possible quality for the price. The dealer                       
4. provide  
have                      the wiring, and you                      have                      your  
5. buy  
own radio and speakers.
- The best time to buy a new car                      after the first bad  
6. be  
weather of the winter because dealers                      be                      their  
7. lower  
prices in order to move their stock.

- To prevent a blowout, you \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_ attention to your  
8. pay  
tires. Difficult steering or a bulge on a tire \_\_\_\_\_ trouble.  
9. indicate
- By the time you're ready to get rid of a car, you \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_  
10. spend  
many hundreds of dollars on maintenance and repairs. You \_\_\_\_\_  
11. try  
\_\_\_\_\_ to get that money back by selling the car yourself rather than  
trading it in to a new car dealer who \_\_\_\_\_ probably be \_\_\_\_\_  
12. pay  
less than wholesale value for used cars.
- Does the finish on your car look dull and scratched? You \_\_\_\_\_ have  
13. ruin  
\_\_\_\_\_ it by washing it with hot water or going to car washes that use  
machines.

\*C.

**Using modal verb phrases when possible, tell your opinions of the advice in Exercise B. Add other advice of your own.**