

Mastering Modal Verbs: The Word Mat

Learning objective: To understand and apply modal verbs to express degrees of possibility, obligation, and ability in writing.

Key Vocabulary

Explore this vocabulary mat to refine your use of modal verbs. These words help you indicate how certain or necessary an action is. Use the categories below to help structure your sentences during your creative writing tasks.

Can A modal verb used to express ability or ...	Could A modal verb that suggests a possibili...	May A modal verb used to express a strong ...
Might A modal verb indicating a weaker poss...	Must A modal verb used to show a strong obl...	Shall A modal verb often used to express a ...
Should A modal verb used to give advice or ...	Will A modal verb used to show a definite fut...	Would A modal verb used to describe a hypo...
Ought to A modal verb meaning the same a...	Certainty The state of being sure that somet...	Possibility A chance that something might h...
Obligation A requirement to do something b...	Permission The act of allowing someone to ...	Ability The possession of the means or skill ...
Explain why 'mus...	Compare and con...	Rewrite this sent... 'The train might arrive at..
What might happ...	Justify why a tra...	Construct a para...