English for Political Studies (Intermediate Level)
a.y. 2025/2026

GRAMMAR POINT

Modal Verbs

- ✓ The **modal verbs** are **can**, **could**, **may**, **might**, **must**, **ought to**, **shall**, **should**, **will** and **would**. **Dare**, **need**, **have to** and **used to** also share some of the features of modal verbs.
- ✓ Modal verbs have only one form. They have no *-ing* or *-ed* forms and do not add *-s* to the 3rd person singular form: *He can speak three languages. She will try and visit tomorrow.*
- ✓ Modal verbs are followed by the infinitive of another verb without **to**. The exceptions are **ought to**, **have to** and **used to**: *You must find a job. You ought to stop smoking. I used to smoke but I gave up two years ago.*
- ✓ Questions are formed without **do**/**does** in the present, or **did** in the past: *Can I invite Mary? Should I have invited Mary?*
- ✓ Negative sentences are formed with **not** or the short form **-n't** and do not use **do**/**does** or **did**.

(source: https://www.oxfordlearnersdictionaries.com)

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