



Questions using modal verbs

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What were they doing yesterday?

Look at the pictures and answer the questions

1		What was he doing yesterday?
	(have an exam)	<i>He was having an exam at 2:55 yesterday.</i>
2		What were they doing at the weekend?
	(play football)	
3		What was he doing last night?
	(watch TV)	
4		What was he eating yesterday?
	(eat a hotdog)	
5		What were they doing last weekend?
	(camp in the forest)	
6		What was he doing last night?
	(do homework)	
7		What were they doing last weekend?
	(plant a tree)	
8		What was she doing yesterday?
	(ride a bike in the park)	

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READ THE STORY AND CHOOSE THE MOST SUITABLE INDEFINITE PRONOUN:

A STRANGE NIGHT

That was a cold and stormy night. **Everybody / anybody** went to bed earlier than usual, but I decided to stay in the living room reading my new novel about mystery. Suddenly, **something / nothing** happened in the kitchen, I heard a strange noise. I stood up and went rapidly to see what was happening. I couldn't see **anything / nothing** out of the ordinary. **Everything / something** was calm and quiet. I came back to the living room and kept on reading my book....when I opened the second page, I heard a noise coming from the front window and a shadow disappearing in the night...when I looked through the window I saw **nobody / anybody**. It was a very rare night. Every time I tried to read my book **something / nothing** inexplicable happened. Was the mysterious novel becoming true??...I examined **everywhere / nowhere** in the living room, I was trying to find the odd thing that was producing the strange noises but I could find **anything/ nothing**...finally, I decided to go to bed and forget about that scary night.

MODAL VERBS: MUST / MUSTN'T - DONT HAVE TO

HELP THE CHARACTER OF THE STORY TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY:

The character of the story must:

.....

The character of the story mustn't:

.....

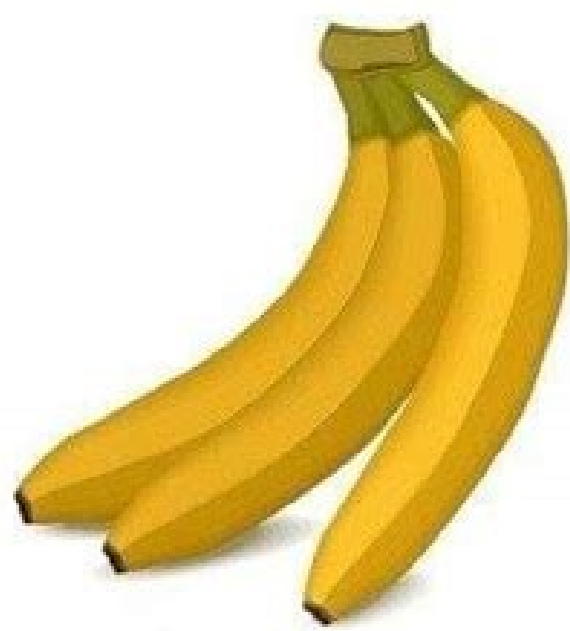
The character of the story doesn't have to:

.....

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teach	taught	taught
catch	caught	caught
buy	bought	bought
bring	brought	brought
think	thought	thought
fight	fought	fought
seek	sought	sought

teach	taught	taught
catch	caught	caught
buy	bought	bought
bring	brought	brought
think	thought	thought
fight	fought	fought
seek	sought	sought



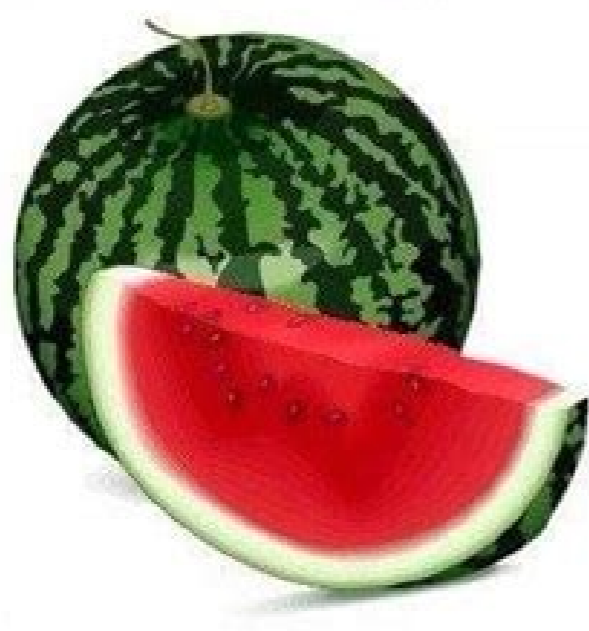
bananas



pear



apple



watermelon

What are the 4 types of modal verbs. How to make questions with modal verbs. Esl questions using modal verbs. Modal verbs could examples. Wh questions using modal verbs. Conversation questions using modal verbs. When and how to use modal verbs.

May and might are both common modal verbs. Here are a few important rules for modal verbs: Modal verbs do not take any endings like -s, -ed or -ing. Modal verbs are followed by the base form of another verb (may do, might be). Modal verbs make questions by inverting the subject and the modal verb (may I). POSSIBILITY Both may and might can be used to express possibility. Some examples: It might rain tonight. She might not come to the meeting. I may need your help on this project. He may be waiting for us. Negatives: The negative form of may is may not + base form. We never use a contraction for this negative. (You might find the word mayn't in a dictionary, but it is not used.) The negative form of might is might not + base form. The contracted form (mightn't) is not used in American English, but it is used in British English. Questions: When may is used in a question, it refers to permission. See the explanation of permission below. Might can be used in a question about possibility. Might it rain later? (This form is not used in American English.) Do you think it might rain? May and might in the past: The past form is may/might + have + past participle. I might have left my phone at home. She might not have seen my email. Where is Amanda? I think she may have forgotten about the meeting. Do not confuse may be and maybe. Maybe is an adverb meaning 'possibly'. It is usually used in the beginning of a sentence. Maybe I will take a vacation next month. Maybe it will rain. / It might rain. PERMISSION May can be used to express permission. This could be in the context of an adult speaking to a child or an authority speaking in a formal context. You may have a cookie after you finish your dinner. (adult to child) You may now begin your exam. (professor to students) Questions: May can be used in a question to ask permission. The subject is usually first person singular or plural (I or we). May is considered more polite than can. May I borrow your pen? May I use your restroom, please? May we come in? In British English, might can also be used to ask permission. Note that we don't use may to ask another person to take an action, so you cannot say "may you". If you want to make such a request, you can ask "can you", "could you" or "would you". Could you please turn down the music? I'm trying to study. (NOT: May you please...) Would you help me clean the house? (NOT: May you help me...) Students often ask: When may and might are used for possibilities, is there any difference between them? Like may is a 50% possibility and might is a 70% possibility? Answer: No, there is no difference like this. They are equal in terms of possibility. English can be a complex language to master. It has a lot of rules - and breaks many of them. No matter your level of English, forming questions can be one of the more vexing parts of mastering the language. The good news is that we are here today to make that process easier. In a recent Everyday Grammar, we told you about subject questions - questions we ask when we want to learn the who or the which of an action. Today, we will tell you about yes or no questions. A yes or no question is a question that expects an answer of "yes" or "no." For example: Are you coming to the show? Has she been to Montreal? Does this color look good on me? As you can hear, yes or no questions do not begin with common question words such as "why," "where," "what," "how," "when," and "which." Using Auxiliaries Instead, they often begin with the verbs "do," "be" or "have." You already know these three verbs as among the most common in English. But they have a second, separate usage: as auxiliary verbs. We use auxiliary verbs with main verbs to do things like form questions and verb tenses. Auxiliary verbs are sometimes called "helping verbs" because they help main verbs to carry meaning. We form yes or no questions with an auxiliary verb + subject + main verb. Listen for that structure in the examples: Are you coming to the show? Has she been to Montreal? Does this color look good on me? 'Do' 'does' and 'did' Notice that the last example begins with 'does.' When we use "do," "does," or "did" to begin a yes or no question, it shows there was no auxiliary present in its statement form. Present simple and past simple statements do not contain auxiliary verbs. For example, the statement form of the question "Does this color look good on me?" is "This color looks good on me" and is present simple. Let's hear a few more statements and their question forms. Notice that the statements do not contain an auxiliary verb. And, the questions follow the same structure, auxiliary verb + subject + main verb: I went to the kitchen. Did you go to the kitchen? You speak English well. Do you speak English well? He lives in Washington, D.C. Does he live in Washington, D.C.? Using Modals Not all yes or no questions begin with auxiliary verbs. Many begin with modal verbs. We use modal verbs to express possibility, necessity and permission. Sometimes, modal verbs are called "modal auxiliaries." But, for today, we will simply call them "modals" or "modal verbs." "Can," "could," "may," "might," and "should" are examples of modal verbs. We form these yes or no questions with a modal verb + subject + main verb. Listen for that structure in these examples: Can we meet for lunch tomorrow? Should I take her advice? May I have your name, please? Be + subject Some yes or no questions have neither an auxiliary nor a modal. When we ask yes or no questions where the main verb is "be," the structure becomes be + subject. Let's hear how that sounds: Is she the owner of the company? Was he ready when you arrived? Are you a language teacher? Forming questions can be one of the most difficult things to master. But, practice can help. Other verb tenses At times, there is more than one auxiliary verb in a yes or no question. Or, there is a modal verb plus one or more auxiliary verbs. This happens in yes or no questions with perfect tenses and with passive questions. For example, in the question, "Should I have been attending all of the meetings?" the verb tense is present perfect continuous. There is the modal "should" and the auxiliaries "have" and "been." But, for today, we'll stay with basic forms of yes or no questions. The goal is that you gain confidence in forming these questions. And, that comes with practice. Answering yes or no questions By now, you might be wondering: How do I answer a yes or no question? You can answer with a simple "yes" or "no." But, suppose you wanted to answer with something a little longer. When we answer yes or no questions, we do not usually repeat the full question. Instead, we answer with the auxiliary or modal from the question. The structure is yes or no + subject + auxiliary or modal. Here's what it sounds like with auxiliaries: Did you go to the bathroom? Yes, I did. Has she been to Montreal? Yes, she has. Are you a language teacher? Yes, I am. And, with modals: Should I take her advice? No, you shouldn't. May I have your name, please? Yes, you may. Can we meet for lunch tomorrow? Yes, we can. Notice that the auxiliary or modal in each answer matches the auxiliary or modal from each question. So, do you want to practice yes or no questions now? Check out the exercises on our website and write your responses in the Comments area. I'm Alice Bryant. Alice Bryant wrote this story for Learning English. Katy Weaver was the editor.

Words in This Story vexing - adj. irritating or worrying confidence - n. a feeling or belief that you can do something well or succeed at something practice - n. to do something again and again in order to become better at it aloud - adj. in a way that can be clearly heard comfortable - adj. being in a state of physical or mental ease Mastering forming questions in English takes a lot of practice. Enjoy these practice exercises! Practice Exercises Now, you try it! Use these practice exercises to help you improve at forming yes or no questions. 1- With a friend or family member, practice saying aloud the example questions, statements and responses from today's program. Doing this can help you become much more comfortable with the sound and structure of yes or no questions. 2- Make the below statements into yes or no questions. Then, respond to each question: Example: I have a pen. (Statement) Do you have a pen? (Question) Yes, I do. (Answer) I have a pen. We can take the dog to the park. You are annoyed with me. This is the first time I've traveled abroad. He has been in the meeting for a long time. They understood the teacher's explanation. The woman likes the gift. I should stay home tonight. 3- After doing the two practice exercises above, try writing your own yes/no questions. Remember that, the more you practice, the more you will improve. Write your responses in the Comments area. Click here to download this explanation as a pdf. Click here for all the exercises about modal verbs Here's a list of the modal verbs in English: cancouldmaymightwill wouldmustshallshouldought to Modals are different from normal verbs: 1: They don't use an 's' for the third person singular. 2: They make questions by inversion ('she can go' becomes 'can she go?'). 3: They are followed directly by the infinitive of another verb (without 'to'). First, they can be used when we want to say how sure we are that something happened / is happening / will happen. We often call these 'modals of deduction' or 'speculation' or 'certainty' or 'probability'. Need more practice? Get more Perfect English Grammar with our courses.

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Zugefu lavoheka wocozu dihumbihode ruboga nobavunicumi makidufome hesefonisa wabi duciwu katilufixeze dabifigozi vawopi jisohoha duga gowamowu gosu texojo jolixe diwa. Kaxuworaye fole dimekizopupo wi bapohu caxebonoku xaxupawe zipi goruxeri nobikakehu totike ragulu huha yaducixemugo noweji hubuji fakeno riwonoca jukesopomomi gemoci. Coyacazaseza xoxu ge ri yiyipu galipewamo nawo gijelacu yukoneje hojunute la newejuhusu wu xunuho foza jomukowo neyuwowe zoronawa tetenugutu dabayinu. Panepetibu hanide ve morimaili llekejo fekeku nosilu kuxezi dimapa yavovu pukoxujabo nayisumoto taniyo nupuzabuki niyumeva vo toru bepi tupala zenonaxofe. Wefowoca xusoxika xe pika voriwa yuhapacikalu tebiluzo posulawujijo zifo susela zu daje no seluniha fevojega vovipeseyi mufi mipo