

CLASS NOTES

Class: VI

Topics: **Modal Verbs**
Active and Passive voice
5/12/2023

Subject: ENGLISH

MODAL VERBS

Modals are a special group of auxiliary verbs used to express certain meanings like permission, ability, suggestion, possibility etc.

The most important modals are:

can **may** **will** **shall** **must**
could **might** **would** **should** **ought to**

Note:

- ❖ Modals are not complete verbs. They cannot stand alone. They must be followed by a main verb.
- ❖ Modals have only one form, which they never change.

Uses of Modals

(a) Asking for Permission: **may, can, could**

1. May I come in, Ma'am? (formal)
2. Can I borrow your book? (informal, friendly)
3. Could you please pass me the salt? (very polite)

(b) Giving Permission: **Can, may**

1. You may leave now. (formal)
2. You can use my umbrella. (informal)

(c) Ability: **can, could**

1. Milo can swim across the river.
2. Sonali could solve sums faster than the other children.

(d) Suggestion, Advice: **should, ought to**

1. You should keep your promise.
2. We ought to follow the rules.

(e) Possibility: **may, might, could**

1. It may rain tomorrow.
2. I might come to your house in the evening.

(f) Wish: **may**

1. May you be blessed with peace and prosperity!
2. May you live happily and long!

(g) Necessity: must

1. You must appear for the entrance examination.
2. We must wash hands regularly to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

ACTIVE AND PASSIVE VOICE

What is voice?

Voice is a form of verb that indicates whether the subject does the action or something is done to the subject.

Active Voice:

In active voice, the subject of the sentence performs the action.

Formula: Subject + Verb + Object

Example: The cat (subject) chased (verb) the mouse (object).

Passive Voice

In passive voice, the object of the action becomes the subject of the sentence.

Formula: Object + "to be" verb (am/is/are/was/were) + Past Participle (verb in the past participle form) + by + Agent (optional)

Example: The mouse (object) was chased (past participle of "chase") by the cat (agent).

Conversion from Active to Passive:

- Identify the subject, verb, and object in the active voice sentence.
- Move the object to the beginning of the sentence.
- Use the appropriate form of "to be" (am/is/are/was/were) based on the tense.
- Change the verb into its past participle form.
- Add "by" followed by the agent (if needed).
- Sometimes the preposition "by" needs to be replaced by "in"/"to"/ "with", etc. according to the verb.

Examples:

Active: The chef (subject) prepares (verb) delicious meals (object).

Passive: Delicious meals (object) are prepared (past participle of "prepare") by the chef (agent).

Passive: The book (object) was read (past participle of "read") by John (agent).

Active: John (subject) read (verb) the book (object).

Remember to choose the correct form of "to be" and the past participle form of the verb based on the tense of the sentence.

Present Indefinite Tense:

Active Voice: Subject + Verb (base form) + Object

Example: She reads a book.

Passive Voice: Object + is/am/are + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)

Example: A book is read by her.

Present Continuous Tense:

Active Voice: Subject + is/am/are + Verb (present participle) + Object

Example: They are watching a movie.

Passive Voice: Object + is/am/are + being + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)

Example: A movie is being watched by them.

Present Perfect Tense:

Active Voice: Subject + has/have + Verb (past participle) + Object

Example: She has completed her homework.

Passive Voice: Object + has/have + been + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)

Example: Her homework has been completed by her.

Past Indefinite Tense:

Active Voice: Subject + Verb (past simple) + Object

Example: He wrote a letter.

Passive Voice: Object + was/were + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)

Example: A letter was written by him.

Past Continuous Tense:

Active Voice: Subject + was/were + Verb (present participle) + Object

Example: They were playing soccer.

Passive Voice: Object + was/were + being + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)

Example: Soccer was being played by them.

Past Perfect Tense:

Active Voice: Subject + had + Verb (past participle) + Object

Example: She had finished her work.

Passive Voice: **Object + had + been + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)**

Example: Her work had been finished by her.

Future Simple Tense:

Active Voice: **Subject + will/shall + Verb (base form) + Object**

Example: He will eat lunch.

Passive Voice: **Object + will/shall + be + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)**

Example: Lunch will be eaten by him.

Future Perfect Tense:

Active Voice: **Subject + will/shall + have + Verb (past participle) + Object**

Example: She will have completed the project by then.

Passive Voice: **Object + will/shall + have + been + Verb (past participle) + by + Agent (optional)**

Example: The project will have been completed by her by then.