

Exercices sur les modaux en anglais

Rappel: les modaux en anglais sont:

- au présent: *can, may, must, will, shall*
- au prétérit: *could, might, must, would, should*

Exercice 1

Choisissez entre 'can', 'can't', 'could' ou 'couldn't'. Si ce n'est pas possible, utilisez 'be able to' au temps qui convient:

1. _____ you swim when you were 8?
2. We _____ get to the meeting on time yesterday, because the plane was delayed by one hour.
3. He _____ arrive at the concert on time, even after missing the subway.
4. Tom is amazing, he _____ speak six languages, including Japanese.
5. I _____ drive a car until I was 35. Then I moved to the USA, so I had to learn..
6. I looked everywhere for my keys but I _____ find them anywhere.
7. I searched for your apartment for ages. luckily I _____ find it in the end.
8. She's six years old, but she _____ read yet. Her parents are getting her extra lessons.
9. I saw the movie four times, but I _____ understand it.
10. Sam _____ speak Chinese when he lived in Shanghai, but he's forgotten most of it now.
11. I _____ understand the page we had to read for homework. It was too difficult.
12. I _____ lift this table – it's too heavy! Would you help me?
13. Linda _____ make it to our party after all. She's stuck in traffic.
14. Tony _____ play soccer really well. He's champion of his club.
15. Unfortunately, I really _____ sing at all.
16. When the taxi broke down I was really pleased because I _____ solve the problem.
17. Kevin _____ play excellent golf when he was only nine.
18. My grandfather _____ use a computer until last week.
19. I _____ open this window! I think it's stuck.
20. Brad _____ play the guitar. He has never studied it.

Exercice 2

Choisissez la bonne réponse:

1. _____ you speak French? – Only a few words, but my Spanish is pretty good. (Can / Could)
2. _____ you help me move this box? (Can / Could)
3. I _____ read already before I was four years old. (could / should / would)
4. I _____ help you, but I don't want to. (can / could / would)
5. _____ you open the door, please. (Can / May)
6. I _____ move the box. It was too heavy. (couldn't / mustn't / shouldn't / wouldn't)
7. You _____ not put your feet on the table. (must not / do not have to)
8. If you continue to practise so hard, you _____ beat me before too long! (can / could / will be able to)
9. _____ you swim? (Are you able to / Can)
10. You _____ eat so much cookies. (don't have to / mustn't / shouldn't)
11. I'm afraid I _____ play basketball tomorrow. (can't / couldn't / would not be able to)
12. You can come to the concert if you want but you _____. (have to / don't have to / mustn't)
13. What do you want to do? – Well, we _____ have a barbecue, but it looks like rain. (can / could / should / would)
14. I'm so hungry I _____ eat ten hamburgers! (can / could / must / should)
15. The exam starts at 9.30. You _____ be late. (don't have to / mustn't)
16. Why didn't you tell me? I _____ you! (could help / could have helped / was able to help / would help)
17. How did you do in the test? – Ok. It worse! (could be / could have been / might be / would have been)
18. He _____ broken the window. He wasn't even at home today. (couldn't have / mustn't / shouldn't have)
19. You _____ tired. You've only just got out of bed! (don't have to be / can't be / mustn't be)
20. Kevin _____ be very pleased with herself. He got the best grades. (has to / must / cannot)

Correction exercise 1

1. Could
2. couldn't
3. was able to
4. can
5. couldn't
6. couldn't
7. was able to
8. can't
9. couldn't
10. could
11. —
12. can't
13. can't
14. can
15. can't
16. was able to
17. could
18. couldn't
19. can't
20. can't

Correction exercise 2

1. can
2. could
3. could
4. could
5. can
6. couldn't
7. must not
8. will be able to
9. can
10. shouldn't
11. can't
12. don't have to
13. could
14. could
15. mustn't
16. could have helped
17. could have been
18. couldn't have
19. can't be
20. must