

MODAUX

modalités	présent	exemple	passé	exemple
probabilité	CAN/MAY/COULD/MIGHT	He may come tomorrow	CAN/MAY/COULD/MIGHT+HAVE+PP	He may have forgotten to come
quasi-certitude	MUST	I'm sure he must be at home	MUST+HAVE+PP	He must have worked hard to succeed
obligation	MUST/have to	I must leave now	had to	She had to show her passport several times
absence d'obligation	NEEDN'T	You needn't worry, it's OK	NEEDN'T+HAVE+PP	They needn't have brought flowers
interdiction	MUSTN'T/CAN'T	You mustn't drive if you drink	COULDN'T	The police told him he couldn't park there
capacité	CAN/COULD/be able to	Yes we can	COULD/be able to	They could land on the moon
incapacité	CAN'T/be unable to	I can't speak Uzbek	COULDN'T/be unable to	They couldn't find their way home
impossibilité	CAN'T	It can't be true	CAN'T+HAVE+PP	You can't have told her our secret
permission	CAN/MAY/be allowed to	You can use my car	COULD/MIGHT/be allowed to	I told you you could use my car
futur	WILL	I will survive	WILL+HAVE+PP	She will have forgotten by the time she wakes up
conditionnel	WOULD	I would if I could	WOULD+HAVE+PP	Had you been here you would have met her
fréquence	WILL	Boys will be boys	WOULD	When I was a kid, I would cry every night
volonté	WILL	I will come back	WOULD	He said he would come back
contraste passé-présent			USED TO	Romans used to dominate the Mediterranean
conseil/obligation morale/reproche	SHOULD/UGHT TO	You should be ashamed of yourself	SHOULD/UGHT TO+HAVE+PP	You ought to have stopped before it got worse
suggestion	SHALL...?	Shall we call it a day?	SHOULD	He said we should call it a day
valeur subjonctive/hypothèse	SHOULD	Should he arrive, tell him I'm here	SHOULD+Have+PP	Should he have arrived, it would have been different
cas particuliers				
préférence	(woul)d rather/ (woul)d sooner	I'd rather be in Philadelphia	(woul)d rather+have+PP (rare)	I'd rather have never met her
conseil	(woul)d better	You'd better shut your big mouth	(woul)d better+have+PP (rare)	You'd better have left before it was too late
avoir besoin	NEED	Call me if needs be	verbe régulier	He didn't need any advice
oser	DARE	I dare you do it	verbe régulier	They didn't dare to repeat their comments
autres valeurs modales		BE+Infinitif complet		
déroulement prévu/préétabli		be to		Napoleon was to die in Saint-Helena
imminent		be about to		The plane is about to take off
vraisemblable		be likely to		The president is likely to form a new government
invraisemblable		be unlikely to		Rain is very unlikely to fall in this desert
prévu		be due to		The train was due to leave at 5 pm
sûr		be sure to		She is sure to get the job
supposé		be supposed to		I am supposed to be home by 7
inévitabile		be bound to		With the crisis, unemployment is bound to increase