

MODAL VERBS EXERCISE

Gap-fill Exercise

Complete the sentences using the words listed in the box below. Some gaps may have more than one correct answer.

can could have to must might should

1. Ted's flight from Amsterdam took more than 11 hours. He _____ be exhausted after such a long flight. He _____ prefer to stay in tonight and get some rest.
2. If you want to get a better feeling for how the city is laid out, you _____ walk downtown and explore the waterfront.
3. Hiking the trail to the peak _____ be dangerous if you are not well prepared for dramatic weather changes. You _____ research the route a little more before you attempt the ascent.
4. When you have a small child in the house, you _____ leave small objects lying around. Such objects _____ be swallowed, causing serious injury or even death.
5. Dave: _____ you hold your breath for more than a minute?
Nathan: No, I can't.
6. Jenny's engagement ring is enormous! It _____ have cost a fortune.
7. Please make sure to water my plants while I am gone. If they don't get enough water, they _____ die.
8. I _____ speak Arabic fluently when I was a child and we lived in Egypt. But after we moved back to Canada, I had very little exposure to the language and forgot almost everything I knew as a child. Now, I _____ just say a few things in the language.
9. The book is optional. My professor said we _____ read it if we needed extra credit. But we _____ read it if we don't want to.
10. Leo: Where is the spatula? It _____ be in this drawer but it's not here.
Nancy: I just did a load of dishes last night and they're still in the dish washer. It _____ be in there. That's the only other place it _____ be.
11. You _____ take your umbrella along with you today. The weatherman on the news said there's a storm north of here and it _____ rain later on this afternoon.
12. _____ we pull over at the next rest stop? I really _____ use the bathroom and I don't know if I _____ hold it until we get to Chicago.
13. Oh no! Frank's wallet is lying on the coffee table. He _____ have left it here last night.
14. Ned: _____ I borrow your lighter for a minute?
Stephen: Sure, no problem. Actually, you _____ keep it if you want to. I've given up smoking.
15. I _____ believe she said that to Megan! She _____ insult her cooking in front of everyone at the party last night. She _____ have just said she was full or had some salad if she didn't like the meal.
16. Do you _____ chew with your mouth open like that? Geez, it's making me sick watching you eat that piece of pizza.