Key	and	commentaries

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 4α The possible meanings for each sentence are:

She may run. = it is possible she will run, or she has permission to run

He should be home. = it is possible he is home, or the speaker wants him to be home

They could've phoned. = it is possible that they phoned, or they were able to phone, or the speaker wishes they had phoned

b 1 *must*; personal (because it is a rule); 2 *will*; logical (because it is simply a fact); 3 *may*; logical (because it expresses a possibility); 4 *shall*; personal (because the force of *shall* is to impose an obligation); 5 *can*; logical (because it expresses what is theoretically possible); 6 *can*; logical (because it expresses a possibility).

example

5 Here is the completed table, using invented examples:

Modal verb meaning

Modal verb	meaning	example
can	theoretical possibility ability permission	Grammar can be fun. 1. Can you speak French? 2. Can we take photographs?
could	possibility ability	It could be fun. 3. We could see the top.
may	4. possibility permission	It may rain. You may go in now.
might	possibility 5. permission	It might be Gary. Might I use the phone?
will	predictability volition	It will be a nice day. 6. I'll give you a hand.
would	7. predictability volition	He would say that. Would you lend me the car?
shall	predictability 8. volition	We shall overcome. Shall we dance?
should	possibility 9. obligation	It should be a nice day tomorrow. You should try harder.
10. must	logical necessity obligation	11. You must be exhausted. 12. I must phone Dad.