

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

Fill in the blanks with an appropriate modal auxiliary verb.

1. You not play with fire.
(prohibition)

must

may

will

2. The children asked whether they
..... go for a swim.
(permission)

would

should

could

3. We hear music playing in
the next room. (ability)

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

can

may

shall

4. If you start now, you reach there by midnight. (prediction)

may

will

shall

5. I did all that I (ability)

can

could

Either could be used here

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

6. He said that he lay down his life for his country. (determination)

will

would

might

7. Work hard lest you fail. (certainty)

would

should

might

8. I pass. I am not sure. (weak probability)

may

might

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

would

9. To whom I address this letter?

would

could

should

10. you mind moving a bit?

Should

Would

Could

11. She not wait any longer. (lack of necessity)

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

must

need

should

12. I don't know whether I
have time.

would

will

may

Answers

1. You must not play with fire.
2. The children asked whether they could go for a swim.
3. We can hear music playing in the next room.
4. If you start now, you will reach there by midnight.

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

5. I did all that I could.
6. He said that he would lay down his life for his country.
7. Work hard lest you should fail.
8. I might pass. I am not sure.
9. To whom should I address this letter?
10. Would you mind moving a bit?
11. She need not wait any longer.
12. I don't know whether I will have time.