

Chapter 19. Modals

Exercise 1. Fill in the blanks with **may, can or could**:

1. A child standing in front of the Principal's office: _____
I come in, Ma'am?
2. A child talking to his mother in front of a baker's shop: I don't
want a cake. _____ I have an ice cream?
3. A man talking to a stranger: _____ you tell me the way
to the post office?
4. A boy talking to his father: _____ you pass on today's
Hindu to me?

Exercise 2. A. Here are some polite requests, and some responses in the box below. Write the letter indicating the correct response against each request:

1. Could you turn down the radio, Pooja? It's too loud.
2. Please don't talk here. It isn't good for the patient.
3. Do you mind posting these letters for me, please?
4. Excuse me, would you mind not playing here?
5. Can you try to come to the class on time, please?

- a. Not at all. I'll do it on my way to school.
- b. I'm very sorry.
- c. I'm sorry. I won't be late again.
- d. Pardon?
- e. I'm sorry. I didn't know it was bothering you.

B. Fill in suitable words to make these polite requests.

1. _____ that window?
2. _____ me a cup of tea?
3. _____ moving a little to the right? You are blocking the view.
4. _____ your bag, please?
5. _____ me pack my bag?

C. Here are some responses either accepting or rejecting requests. Write suitable requests for them.

1. Sure. I'll just do it. _____
2. Not at all. _____
3. Sorry, I didn't realise that. _____
4. Sorry, I'm using it myself. _____
5. I'm sorry, but I'm busy at the moment. _____

6. I'd rather not. It would get suffocating. _____

Exercise 3. You are the librarian of a school. A child comes to the library for the first time. Write four sentences telling him what he should/shouldn't do or what he must/mustn't do.

Example. To a cousin who is putting on weight, you could say:

You **must** go for jogging everyday. You **must not** eat too many sweets.

You **should** eat more vegetables. You **should** join a gym.
