

## Chapter 10. Verbs: Modals

**Exercise 1.** Rewrite the following sentences using **can, may or could** as suitable:

Example. Would you mind if I use your telephone? (informal)  
*Can I use your telephone?*

1. You are permitted to skip this class. (formal)

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2. Would you mind giving me a lift to the station? (very polite)

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3. We let him visit us any time he likes. (informal)

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4. Is it all right if I go home now? (friendly)

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5. She was allowed to buy the books she liked. (informal)

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**Exercise 2. A.** In these sentences, replace **be able to** and **be capable of** by **can** or **could**:

1. An owl is able to see in the dark.

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2. Neeraj is now able to speak English fluently.

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3. I know I was weak and was not capable of hitting back.

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4. Alexander was not able to return to his motherland.

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5. Leander was capable of beating all the French players.

**B. Fill in the blanks with appropriate modals in accordance with the instructions given in the brackets:**

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ play sitar but I \_\_\_\_\_ sing.  
(have, not have the ability to)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ you kindly give a message to my father?  
(polite request)
3. You \_\_\_\_\_ go to the party. It is raining. (prohibition)
4. Ruskin Bond's stories are very interesting. You \_\_\_\_\_ read them. (the speaker insists).
5. \_\_\_\_\_ you be blessed with health and happiness! (wish)
6. \_\_\_\_\_ I take my lunch now? (seeking formal permission)
7. You \_\_\_\_\_ always keep your room clean. (advice or suggestion)
8. You \_\_\_\_\_ submit a medical certificate with this application. (It is a rule)
9. You \_\_\_\_\_ get this report card signed by your parents. (compulsion)
10. We \_\_\_\_\_ not put off any work till tomorrow if we can do it today. (general suggestion)