

## **Modals:**

Modal verbs are auxiliary verbs that express meanings such as obligation, permission, prohibition, and rules. They come before the base form of the verb and do not change form (no s or ed). Modals help speakers show whether something is necessary, allowed, or not allowed.

The most common modals are: must, have to, must not, can, may, and cannot.

### **Common Modals:**

- **Obligation:** obligation modals express something necessary or required.

Must (Strong Obligation), often expresses a rule: ex: You must protect your personal information.

Have to (General Obligation) expresses a daily or general obligation: ex: I have to change my password often.

- **Prohibition:** show that something is not allowed.

‘Must not’ expresses a strong rule, it usually shows that it is the speaker who is setting the rule. Ex: you must not post harmful content.

‘Cannot’ expresses that something is impossible or not permitted, it gives the idea that something is against the rules. Ex: you cannot log in without your username.

- **Permission:** show that someone is allowed to do something. ‘May’ is more formal and polite. ‘Can’ is more common in everyday English. Examples:

May I join your study group?

Can we use our phones in class?

You can upload your project online.

Students can comment on the post.

- **Future Actions & Predictions:** For events expected to happen or general future events.

*She **will** arrive by noon.*

*I think the company **will** succeed.*