

Max's Modal Verbs

Max, the racing car driver, is trying to sort the modal verbs below. Modal verbs are used with other verbs to describe how likely something is to happen or to show how certain we are of something happening. For example:

One day, Max **might** win the race.

The word **might** is the modal verb. It indicates that Max might win the race one day but it isn't definitely going to happen. Below is a list of modal verbs. Write the modal verbs into the table below according to how strongly they suggest something might happen.



definitely
happening

not
happening

may

should

would

ought to

must

might

could

will

can

Max Modal

Max Modal is struggling with his homework. He must identify which of the sentences below contains a modal verb. Help Max by ticking the sentences that contain a modal verb.



1. Max likes chocolate before a race because it tastes nice.
2. Max's manager said he might win the race.
3. The car flew through the air as it spun around the corner.
4. You must finish the race.
5. The race will take place today.
6. After the race, Max went to lie down.

Now, help Max by underlining the modal verb in each sentence below:

1. If she entered the race, Nicole might win first place.
2. It would have been great if the race hadn't been cancelled due to the storm.
3. They will change the tyres at the pit stop.
4. Lewis' manager said that he should always try his best.
5. "You may approach the start line," the announcer told the cars.
6. Tricia thought that she ought to get in one more practice before the race.
7. Seb could win the championship – he just needs to continue getting the most points.

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**definitely
happening**



At the top of the list (in any order) should be:

will

can

must

In the middle of the list (in any order) should be:

would

should

ought to

At the bottom of the list (in any order) should be:

could

may

might

**not
happening**

may

should

would

ought to

must

might

could

will

can

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