



Multibhashi



# Modal verbs in Präteritum



# Class Objective

To understand the modal verbs in  
past tense.



## Concept A: Use of Modal Verbs in Past Tense

Let us learn the modal verbs in past tense (Präteritum)

For Past tense, please note the below points:

1. There will be no umlauts.
2. 1st person and 3rd person will have the same endings.
3. Past tenses will have 't' examples: konnten, musste etc.



## Concept A: Use of Modal Verbs in Past Tense

Let us see the past tense of modal verbs:

The simple past tense of modal verbs						
infinitive infinitive stem simple past stem change	dürfen <i>durf-</i> ü → u	können <i>könn-</i> ö → o	müssen <i>müss-</i> ü → u	sollen <i>soll-</i>	wollen <i>woll-</i>	mögen <i>mög-</i> ö → o
ich	<b>durfte</b>	<b>konnte</b>	<b>musste</b>	<b>sollte</b>	<b>wollte</b>	<b>mochte</b>
du	<b>durftest</b>	<b>konntest</b>	<b>musstest</b>	<b>solltest</b>	<b>wolltest</b>	<b>mochtest</b>
er, sie, es	<b>durfte</b>	<b>konnte</b>	<b>musste</b>	<b>sollte</b>	<b>wollte</b>	<b>mochte</b>
wir	<b>durften</b>	<b>konnten</b>	<b>mussten</b>	<b>sollten</b>	<b>wollten</b>	<b>mochten</b>
ihr	<b>durftet</b>	<b>konntet</b>	<b>musstet</b>	<b>solltet</b>	<b>wolltet</b>	<b>mochtet</b>
Sie, sie	<b>durften</b>	<b>konnten</b>	<b>mussten</b>	<b>sollten</b>	<b>wollten</b>	<b>mochten</b>



## Concept B: Quick revision about modal verbs, their meanings, present, past and perfect:

Modal verbs express an attitude about an action expressed in the sentence.  
German has six modal verbs.

Modal verbs with principal parts

*Meanings ("modes")*

**dürfen, (darf), durfte, gedurft**

*to be allowed to, may  
(permission)*



## Concept B: Quick revision about modal verbs, their meanings, present, past and perfect:

**können, (kann), konnte, gekonnt**

*to be able to, can (ability)*

**mögen, (mag), mochte, gemocht**

*to like (liking)*

**müssen, (muss), musste, gemusst**

*to have to, must, to need to (necessity)*

**sollen, (soll), sollte, gesollt**

*shall, to be supposed to (obligation)*

**wollen (will), wollte, gewollt**

*to want to, to intend to (desire)*

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**LECTURE 1: INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE**

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**1.2 COURSE STRUCTURE**

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