

**UNIVERSIDAD DEL VALLE  
FACULTAD DE HUMANIDADES  
ESCUELA DE CIENCIAS DEL LENGUAJE  
LECTURA DE TEXTOS ACADÉMICOS EN INGLÉS**

# **Modal auxiliary verbs**

## **Passive voice**

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# Modal auxiliary verbs

Modal verbs are used to make precise statements and for that reason are very common in scientific and technical texts.

Modal verbs have no meaning by themselves.

They are always used in conjunction with main verbs to help them express ideas (about the past, the present or the future).

There are several categories of modal verbs.

# Modal verbs

**Ability:** can, may.

- All that we experience and can do is, in some measure, a function of our placement in a physical world.
- By adapting the physical environment we may provide strategies to help **many children and adults who can not make sense of their world.**

# Modal verbs

**Possibility / probability:** can, could, may, might, will, would.

- **Persons suffering distress** may be in general disarray and disorganised; they would often have no plan or miss the target; they could also lack precept and apt to self-fulfilling prophecy. They might require re-organization as well as re-building self concept.

# Modal verbs

**Obligation:** must, ought to, should.

- Students in this course **must** / **ought to** / **should** attend every lecture.
- In any course, the student must achieve a passing grade.
- Students must enter the examination room quietly and may not bring into it any electronic communication devices. **A student needing to speak to the proctor** should so indicate by raising his or her hand.

# Passive voice

The passive voice is used to describe situations, methods, etc. It involves the following elements:

**Object + Verb to be + Main verb (past participle)**

The passive voice is especially helpful in scientific or technical writing where the actor is not really important but the process or principle being described is very important. Instead of saying “I wrote down a report at period end” it is preferable to say “The report was written down at period end.”

# Passive voice

- Panic Disorder is characterized by **“a discrete period of intense fear or discomfort that is accompanied by several somatic or cognitive symptoms.** The attack has a sudden onset and builds to a peak rapidly (usually in 10 minutes or less) and is often accompanied by **a sense of imminent danger** or impending doom and an urge to escape.” Panic Disorder is distinguished by **“recurrent attacks of severe anxiety (panic), which are not restricted to any particular situation or set of circumstances and are therefore unpredictable.”**

# Passive voice

- **Students who have missed more than 10% of laboratory or small group sessions without an approved absence will not be permitted to write the final examination in the course. No absences are permitted during any clinical fieldwork affiliation. **Any absences for illness or compassionate reasons must be documented at both the site and the School, approved by the Program Director for the absence to be authorized, and the time be made up.****

# Passive voice

When body fluids have been spilled on equipment, the following actions must be taken:

- The equipments should be cleaned according to manufacturer's recommendations.
- Consideration ought to be given to carrying eye protection.
- Wash your hands before and after the procedure. Handwashing may be accomplished using a **commercial water-free cleaning solution.**

# Passive voice

- **In societies where life expectancy has been considerably extended**, dementias are becoming a major public health concern.
- Experts estimate that 22 million people around the world will be afflicted by Alzheimer in 2025.
- **Drugs, which are known as psychostimulants**, have been found to improve **the behavior of children with attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD)**.