13 Verbi modali 1: tempi presenti (Unità 39–45, 48)

I verbi modali:
- non cambiano forma: He can swim. Non: He can’t swim.
- sono seguiti dalla forma base del verbo: She can ski. Non: She can’t ski.
- la forma negativa usa not (n’t): He can’t swim. Non: He doesn’t can swim.
- non prendono do/does nelle domande: Can he drive? Non: Does he can drive?

Ricorda che, sebbene abbiano un significato simile ad altri verbi modali, have to e need to non sono verbi modali. Pertanto si comportano come gli altri verbi (Do we have to go? You don’t need to go).

I principali usi dei verbi modali al presente sono:
- Abilità e possibilità: can, can’t, be able to
  I can speak English. You can’t smoke here.
- Permesso: can, can’t
  Could you help me, please?
- Richieste e offerte: can, could, would
  We might be late.
- Obbligo: must, mustn’t, have to, don’t have to
  You need to show your passport.
- Necessità: need to, don’t need to
  You should go to bed.
- Certezza e deduzione: must, can’t, could, might
  We might be late.
- Consigli e suggerimenti: should, ought to
  You should go to bed.

1 Completa i dialoghi usando can e i suggerimenti del riquadro.

0 A Can you play chess?
   B Yes, but I’m not very good.

1 A __________ a musical instrument?
   B Well, __________ the guitar a little.

2 A How fast __________ 100 metres?
   B In about 1 minute and twenty seconds.

3 A __________ English?
   B No. But __________ a little German.

2 Che cosa diresti in queste situazioni? Usa i suggerimenti del riquadro.

can / borrow can / a drink could / help me can / use could / close would / a biscuit

0 You are thirsty. __________ a drink, please?

1 You want to borrow a pen.

2 You want someone to help you.

3 You want to offer someone a biscuit.

4 You want your friend to close the window.

5 You want to use your friend’s mobile.

3 Scegli l’alternativa corretta.

Keep off the grass 0 You don’t have to / mustn’t / don’t need to walk on the grass.

ID REQUIRED 1 You have to / can / don’t have to park here.

Silence please 2 You don’t have to / can’t / don’t need to take photos.

£ and € accepted here 3 You have to / can / might show your ID.

4 Completa le battute di B con must, might o can’t.

0 A Did you phone Gary?
   B Yes, but there’s no answer. He __________ be out.

1 A Whose mobile phone is this?
   B It __________ be Sara’s – she’s got one like that and she was here this morning.

2 A I passed my exam!
   B Well done. You __________ be really pleased.

3 A Is there any more pizza?
   B You’ve already had two pieces – you __________ still be hungry.

4 A Look at this photo. Where do you think it is?
   B Well, it looks like the UK. It __________ be Oxford or Cambridge. Oh no, it __________ be the UK – the cars are driving on the right.