

Expressions Similar to Modal Verbs

- ◆ **Be supposed to + infinitive (= should)**
This structure is used to show that someone else expects us to do something.
e.g. *I'm supposed to work this weekend. (My boss expects me to do so.)*
- ◆ **Be to + infinitive (= must) is used to give orders.**
e.g. *You are to stay here until I return.*
This medicine is to be taken three times a day.
- ◆ **Be likely to + infinitive/It is likely that + clause (= probably - more emphatic than may but less emphatic than should/ought). They are used to express possibility.**
e.g. *The Austrian racing driver is likely to win the race.*
It is likely that the Austrian racing driver will win the race.
Is Mary likely to get the job she applied for?

13 Match the items in column A to their synonyms in column B.

A	B
1 You mustn't ...	a You are supposed to ...
2 You can't be ...	b It wasn't necessary for us to ... (but we did)
3 You needn't ...	c Let's ...
4 They ought to ...	d He managed to ...
5 She didn't need to ...	e They had better ...
6 You should ...	f It is forbidden ...
7 May I ...?	g I'm sure they are ...
8 We needn't have ...	h Do you mind if I ...?
9 He was able to ...	i You are to ...
10 Shall we ...?	j It isn't necessary for you to ...
11 You must ...	k I'm certain you aren't ...
12 They must be ...	l It wasn't necessary for her to ...

14 Rephrase the following sentences in as many ways as possible.

- 1 It is possible that Sue will be late this evening.
Sue may/might/could be late this evening./ Sue is likely to be late this evening.
- 2 I'm sure David isn't going to the party tonight.
.....

- 3 The guests are supposed to arrive at 8 o'clock.
.....
- 4 It wasn't necessary for Toby to go to school today.
.....
- 5 I advise you to book a table in advance.
.....
- 6 They are obliged to wear helmets at work.
.....
- 7 You are to wait here until the manager arrives.
.....
- 8 Steve managed to repair the bike after trying for two hours.
.....
- 9 Perhaps we will go to Italy for a holiday next summer.
.....
- 10 We are obliged to wear a uniform for school.
.....
- 11 You aren't allowed to run in the corridors.
.....
- 12 How about inviting some friends over to dinner?
.....
- 13 It isn't necessary for you to buy me a present.
.....
- 14 Do you mind if I use your telephone?
.....
- 15 Would you like me to clean the windows for you?
.....
- 16 How about going for a walk this afternoon?
.....

15 Answer the questions using a suitable modal verb.



- 1 Are the men criminals?
They may be criminals.
- 2 Are they trying to escape?
- 3 Are they in the countryside?
- 4 Is it a cloudy day?
- 5 Is this their own boat?
- 6 Are they going to a hiding place?
- 7 Are the police chasing them?