Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

Fill in the blanks with an appropriate modal auxiliary.

1. You ……………………….. start coming on time. (strong obligation)
   - must
   - will
   - can

2. You ……………………….. pay for this. (threat)
   - will
   - can
   - would

3. She ……………………….. be working late tonight. (weak possibility)
Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

may

will

might

4. She .......................... spend hours talking to herself. (past habit)

will

would

may

5. You .......................... give credit where it is due.

ought to

will
Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

6. ........................................... the train be on time?

Will

Would

Can

7. ‘Can somebody help me?’ ‘I ...........................................’ (willingness)

will

would

might

8. ................................. I borrow your car?
Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

(Permission)

Will
Can
Would

9. She .................................. not get the job.
(possibility)

may

can

will

10. I promise I .......................... tell anybody.

will not

would not
11. ………………………….. you mind my sitting here?

Would

Will

May

12. She ………………………….. be here soon. (logical conclusion)

would

should

could
Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

Answers

You must start coming on time.
You will pay for this.
She might be working late tonight.
She would spend hours talking to herself.
You ought to give credit where it is due.
Will the train be on time?
‘Can somebody help me?’ ‘I will.’
Can I borrow your car?
She may not get the job.
I promise I won’t tell anybody.
Would you mind my sitting here?
She should be here soon.