

Modal Auxiliary Verbs Exercise

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use modal auxiliaries correctly.

Fill in the blanks with an appropriate modal auxiliary.

1. They knelt in front of the child who
..... one day rule their country.

will
would
shall

2. How many people get into a
telephone booth?

may
can
Either could be used here

3. I not do this if I did not have
to.

will
would
should

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4. If you stopped talking, I get some work done.

can

might

could

Either 'might' or 'could'

5. a visa for Malaysia?

Need I to get

Need I get

Do I need get

6. You better start saying thank-you.

have

had

should

7. Let's go for a walk, we?

can

shall

will

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8. You work on Sundays.

needn't

don't need to

Either could be used here

9. She really to mend her ways.

should

ought

must

10. She speak six languages.

may

can

Either could be used here

11. Life be more interesting when I was a child.

used to

would

use to

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12. Granny always bring us nice gifts.

would

used to

Either could be used here

Answers

1. They knelt in front of the child who would one day rule their country.
2. How many people can get into a telephone booth?
3. I would not do this if I did not have to.
4. If you stopped talking, I could / might get some work done.
5. Need I get a visa for Malaysia?
6. You had better start saying thank-you.
7. Let's go for a walk, shall we?
8. You need not / don't need to work on Sundays.
9. She really ought to mend her ways.
10. She can speak six languages.
11. Life used to be more interesting when I was a child.
12. Granny would / used to always bring us nice gifts.