Fill in the blanks with appropriate modal auxiliary verbs.

1. My grandmother is eighty-five, but she ................. still read and write without glasses. (Ability)
   can
   could
   may

   We use can to express ability.

2. .................. I come with you?
   Can
   Will
   Would

   We use can to ask for permission.

3. .................. you help me with the housework, please? (Polite request)
   Could
   Will
   Should

   We use could in polite requests.

4. There was a time when I ................. stay up very late. (Past ability)
   would
   could
   can

   We use could to talk about past ability.

5. You ................. not lose any more weight. You are already slim. (Necessity)
   may
need
should
We use need to show necessity.

6. We ............... make the first move. (Prohibition)
must not
will not
cannot
We use must not to prohibit.

7. It is snowing outside so I ............... stay at home. (Intention)
may
will
can
We use will to express our intentions.

8. I ............... get you a shawl from Kashmir. (Promise)
will
would
can
may
We use will to make a promise.

9. ............... you mind if I borrowed your car? (Permission)
Will
Would
Should
We use would in expressions with mind.
10. ............... you take care of my dog for a day? (Polite request)

Will
Shall
Should

We can use will in requests.

11. Our country ................. become a super power by 2025. (possibility)

may
might
will
should

We use may to indicate possibility.

12. She .............. sell her home because she needs money. (weak possibility)

may
might
could

Might indicates weak possibility.

PLAY AGAIN!

Answers

1. My grandmother is eighty-five, but she can still read and write without glasses.
2. Can I come with you?
3. Could you help me with the housework, please?
4. There was a time when I could stay up very late.
5. You need not lose any more weight. You are already slim.
6. We must not make the first move.
7. It is snowing outside so I will stay at home.
8. I will get you a shawl from Kashmir.
9. Would you mind if I borrowed your car?
10. Will you take care of my dog for a day?
11. Our country may become a super power by 2025.
12. She might sell her home because she needs money.