

Rewrite using modal auxiliary verbs

In English, we can express a lot of ideas using modal auxiliary verbs.

The modal auxiliary verbs are: will, would, can, could, may, might, must, ought to, need, used to and dare.

They express ideas such as possibility, permission, prohibition, obligation, necessity, duty, willingness etc.

Rewrite the following sentences using modal auxiliary verbs. Make sure that the meaning does not change.

1. It is not necessary for you to wait any longer. /
You not wait any longer.

need
should
must

2. You are required to respect the national flag. /
You respect the national flag.

should
would
could

3. She was able to read when she was three. / She
..... write when she was three.

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would
could
might

4. I was able to solve the problem. / I
..... solve the problem.

would
should
could

5. Perhaps she would come. / She
come.

would
should
might

6. You are prohibited from entering my home. /
You enter my house.

must
must not
need not

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7. You are allowed to go home. / You
..... go home.

can

may

Either could be used here

8. She is able to speak English. / She
..... speak English.

can

may

could

9. It is possible to blow glass. / Glass
..... be blown.

can

may

Either could be used here

10. It is not necessary for her to pay for that call. /
She pay for that call.

needs not

need not

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may not

11. It is possible for wars to break out at any time.
/ Wars break out at any time.

can

may

Either could be used here

12. I prefer to stay at home instead of going to the club. / I rather stay at home than go to the club.

would

could

should

Answers

1. You need not wait any longer.
2. You must respect the national flag.
3. She could read when she was three.
4. I could solve the problem.

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5. She might come.

6. You must not enter my home.

7. You may go home.

8. She can speak English.

9. Glass can be blown.

10. She need not pay for that call.

11. Wars can break out at any time.

12. I would rather stay at home than go to the club.