

## GRAMMAR

### EXPRESSING ABILITY AND PERMISSION ( 1 )

Complete the following sentences using a modal verb of **ability** or **permission** – indicate as well what type of modal verb (i.e. ability or permission) you have used.

1. My father told me that I \_\_\_\_\_ borrow his car as it was not working so he had to take it to the mechanic.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I please be excused from the table? I would like to go out early this evening and must make several phone calls before I go.
3. I will not \_\_\_\_\_ to help you with your homework tonight because I am not feeling well.
4. When my sister and I were 5 years old, we \_\_\_\_\_ to play outside once it was dark.
5. When I was in hospital recovering from an operation, I \_\_\_\_\_ to eat as much ice cream as I wanted.
6. Karl \_\_\_\_\_ to lift the television, which weighed over 40 pounds, but he hurt his wrist lifting it.
7. Frank \_\_\_\_\_ hear what the professor was saying, so he moved his desk closer to the front of the class.

**EXPRESSING ABILITY AND PERMISSION ( 2 )**

Complete the following sentences using a modal verb of **ability** or **permission** – indicate as well what type of modal verb (i.e. ability or permission) you have used.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ bother you for a moment and ask you to explain the situation one more time?
  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I borrow a book from you? I have read every single book that I have, and need to find something new.
  
3. Marsha's son has \_\_\_\_\_ to read since he was 18 months old, and his teachers all remark on his extraordinary intelligence.
  
4. Though I had forgotten my keys, I \_\_\_\_\_ to open the door by climbing in through an unlocked window.
  
5. I wonder \_\_\_\_\_ sit at that table closer to the window? I enjoy looking out of the window while I am eating.
  
6. Benjamin \_\_\_\_\_ perform the magic trick flawlessly the night that he held his performance.
  
7. \_\_\_\_\_ I use your telephone? I have to phone the office to tell them that I will be late.

**EXPRESSING ABILITY AND PERMISSION ( 3 )**

The teacher should take the parts where there are no gaps in the dialogue.

Read the following dialogues aloud with your teacher, inserting a modal verb in the gaps



**Salesman:** \_\_\_\_\_ I help you?

**Customer:** Yes, I would like to purchase this dress. Do you have it in a size 8?

**Salesman:** Yes. I will be back in just a moment with the size you are looking for.

**Customer:** Will \_\_\_\_\_ to pay with a credit card, or do I have to use cash?

**Salesman:** A credit card will be fine.



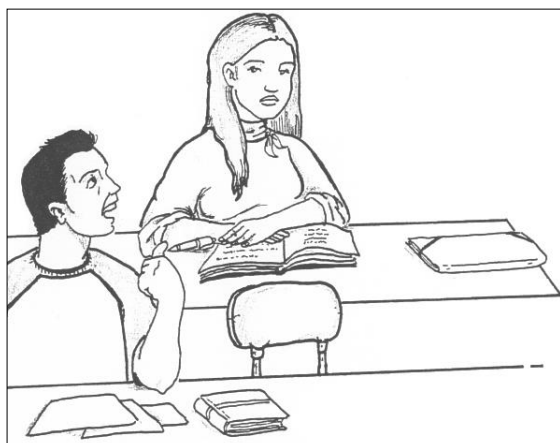
**Waiter:** Have a seat, Ma'am.

**Woman:** \_\_\_\_\_ you please take my coat to the cloakroom?

**Waiter:** Absolutely.

**Woman:** Oh, before you go... I have one more question. I wasn't \_\_\_\_\_ to make a reservation for next week by phone. \_\_\_\_\_ you reserve a table for my husband and me, or do I have to do it myself?

**Waiter:** No, I will reserve the table for you.



**Student 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ I see your notes from yesterday?

**Student 2:** Didn't you take notes on the lecture. It was one of the best lectures the professor has given.

**Student 1:** I \_\_\_\_\_ hear a word that he was saying, which is normal. He is a very softy-spoken man.

**Student 2:** You should move to the front of the class.

**DIRECT AND INDIRECT SPEECH ( 4 )**

Report what you have overheard the actors and actresses saying while sitting in the theatre



“I am depressed because the director screamed at me yesterday.”

“Why don’t you talk to the director about how you are feeling?”

“I have not been sleeping well, so I will just lie down and take a quick nap here.”

“I wish I had remembered to bring another wallet with me this morning.”


“Have you ever seen a jaw so beautifully and strongly pronounced on a person’s face?”

“I must leave now, or else I will not be able to stop crying.”

**GIVING ADVICE ( 1 )**

Read the following situations and then offer advice using the construction indicated at the end of the texts

1. A friend of yours is extremely unhappy with her job. She says that the only thing her manager does is scream, which demoralises the people who work for him. She is not sure whether or not she should quit her job, or simply put up with the awful work environment. (*ought to*)
2. Your children have been caught stealing sweets from a candy shop. The shop owner has phoned to say that he has seen them stealing the sweets, and that he has not stopped them from doing it. The shop owner wants you to talk to your children. (*had better not*)
3. Your father is always complaining about being overweight. He wants to enrol in a weight-loss programme, but he says that it might interfere with his work schedule. (*if I were you + would*)
4. A co-worker is concerned because he does not have enough money to pay this month's rent. He says that he does not want to ask his parents for money, yet he may have to do just that. He wants you to advise him. (*if I were in your position + would*)
5. A friend of yours is complaining about his wisdom teeth, which are hurting him immensely. He has been groaning and muttering for the past several days and doesn't seem to be doing anything to alleviate his pain. (*should*)

	<p><b><u>Método Elingua</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Progress Class Level 16G</u></b></p>	<p><b>Versión 1.0</b></p> <p><b>Página 6 de 7</b></p>
---	---	---

**GIVING ADVICE ( 2 )**

Read the following situations and then offer advice using the construction indicated at the end of the texts

1. Your brother seems to have developed a gambling problem. He spends a lot of time at the racetrack, and he has begun to borrow money from you and his friends. You are worried that he may lose all his money. (*oughtn't to*)
  
2. You can see that there is an ambulance approaching with its siren wailing. You are standing at the side of the road, holding your daughter's hand. She is pulling at your hand because she wants to cross the road and talk to a friend. (*had better*)
  
3. Your eldest son, who is 28 years old, wants to quit his job and write a novel. He says that he is tired of working so many hours a day, and that he would like to begin doing something constructive with his time. (*ought – question form*)
  
4. Your five cousins, who have come to visit you and your parents in London, are running around the house screaming and knocking objects off the table. You are trying to study for an important exam you have to take tomorrow. (*had better*)
  
5. One of your dear friends has arrived at your house in tears. You ask her to come in and sit down, and she explains how she caught her boyfriend kissing another woman. She is obviously distraught. (*if I were in your position*)

**GIVING ADVICE ( 3 )**

**Give advice, using an appropriate phrase, for the following situations.**

- It is 4 in the morning and you can hear loud noises coming from your neighbour's flat.
  
- A work colleague is having problems at home and cannot concentrate at the office.
  
- Your two children are fighting with each other.
  
- A classmate, who has always been a bit foolish, is about to put his finger in an electrical socket.
  
- It is raining outside and your flatmate is about to go out without any type of raingear.