

Modal Verbs

Worksheets (Junior Secondary)

Yeung, Ching Yee Annie; Siu, Ka Ka Katy; Lee, Fung King Jackie
The Education University of Hong Kong

Task 1 Police report

Read the following police report. Identify the modal verbs used.

It was a sunny day. Three youngsters made an attack upon Mr. Paul Lee, as he was passing the corner of Lung Mun Road, for the purpose of robbing him. Finding that he had no money, they beat him and kicked him until he became insensible, and then ran off. The unfortunate man was subsequently found by a young lady who passed by. She thought the robbers must have beaten the poor man very hard. "He was in blood when I saw him. He could have fought back but there might be more than one robber so he was not able to resist."

After the lapse of an hour or two, Lee revived sufficiently to leave the hospital. "The three robbers could have kicked me to death. They were horrible," said Lee.

Task 2 Witness reports

Fill in the blanks with the modal verbs you have learnt today - *might/ could/ should/ must*. Each verb should be used ONCE only.

	<p>I was sitting in my armchair in the garden that day. Suddenly, I heard some noise. I don't really remember what noise it was. After a while, I saw some people running out from the corner of Lung Mun Road. I could not see clearly. They ran really fast. I think that there _____ be three men.</p>
	<p>It was such a horrible experience. I just finished shopping with my friends and was walking to the bus stop. Suddenly, three people ran very fast towards me. I was shocked. Then, I saw blood on their hands. I looked up to their faces. Two of them were wearing masks and hats. I was sure that all of them were with short hair and were well-built. They wore school uniforms. They _____ be teenage boys.</p>

	<p>I was on a minibus at that time. I saw three boys running away from the corner of Lung Mun Road. I didn't see clearly because I was wearing sunglasses. As I remember, they were all wearing white shirts and black trousers. They _____ be students.</p>
	<p>I was buying a newspaper in 7/11. When I was paying money at the counter, I heard three boys talking behind me. They were talking about money. I looked back and they walked away. Um... there was some blood on their hands... It was strange. So, I guessed they _____ have done something bad.</p>

Task 3 Suspects' reflections

In groups of three, imagine that each of you is one of the three young suspects.

Write about what he might have said with the use of modal verbs - *might* / *could* / *should* / *must*.

You may use the vocabulary provided in the box below.

Adjectives of feeling	of	disappointed	worried	angry	sorry
Adjectives of behaviour	naive	immature	wrong	inappropriate	
Adjectives of personality	greedy	selfish	ignorant	arrogant	

Boy 1

	<p>I am lucky. My parents own a company. They _____ have made some profits from their business. They _____ be rich enough to hire a good lawyer for me.</p> <p>But I have not been home for weeks. Will they get angry with me? Oh, I am not sure now. They _____ refuse to help me...</p>
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Boy 2



I am finished. I was so stupid! I _____ not _____ the man.

No one will help me. I _____ be put in jail.

Boy 3



I am so regretful. Why did I join them?

They _____ be very sad when they heard about my stupidity.
