



Modals, Infinitives and Phrasal Verbs

Name: _____

Class: _____

1. At a cha chaan teng in Mong Kok, the waiter speaks to Mrs Chan and her son.

Waiter: Good afternoon. _____ I take your order?

Which word best completes the waiter's polite offer?

- A. Must
- B. Could
- C. Should
- D. Would

2. Tom wants to invite his classmate to Ocean Park.

Tom: _____ you like to come with me this Saturday?

Which modal correctly completes Tom's invitation?

- A. Must
- B. Should
- C. Would
- D. Shall

3. At Kowloon Park, children see this sign on the lawn:

_____ the grass.

Which phrasal verb correctly finishes the prohibition on the sign?

- A. Keep on
- B. Keep off
- C. Get off
- D. Turn off

4. Which sentence correctly uses a phrasal verb to give a prohibition?

- A. Please keep off the flower beds.
- B. Please keep on the flower beds.
- C. Please break down the flower beds.
- D. Please look after the flower beds carefully then run on them.

5. Miss Lee is talking to Mary in the school library.

Miss Lee: I asked Mary _____ the story to the class.

Which option correctly completes the sentence with an infinitive?

- A. reading
- B. to read
- C. read
- D. reads

6. Ken is writing about his weekend plan.

Ken: This Sunday I want _____ my grandparents in Sha Tin.

Which form correctly completes the sentence?

- A. visiting
- B. visit
- C. to visit
- D. visited

7. On the MTR, a passenger stands near the doors during a busy morning.

Which sentence best uses a modal to show a prohibition?

- A. Could you block the doors, please?
- B. You can't block the doors.
- C. I would like to block the doors.
- D. Shall we block the doors now?

8. Sam did poorly in his Science test. His mother gives him advice.

Mum: You _____ work harder before the next test.

Which modal best shows strong obligation?

- A. could
- B. would
- C. must
- D. shall

9. On the way to school, Mr Wong's minibus stopped and would not start again.

Which sentence correctly uses a phrasal verb for this condition?

- A. The minibus broke up on the road.
- B. The minibus broke down on the road.
- C. The minibus broke into on the road.
- D. The minibus broke off on the road.

10. Sita is explaining why she was late for the picnic at Tai Po Waterfront Park.
Sita: I'm sorry. Our car _____ on the highway, so we had to wait for a tow truck.
Which phrasal verb best shows that the car stopped working?

- A. turned off
- B. gave up
- C. broke down
- D. kept off

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Answers

1 B

We use Could or Can to make a polite offer or request in service situations.

Could I take your order? is a polite way for a waiter to offer help.

Must shows strong obligation, not a polite offer. Should gives advice. Would alone does not fit this offer pattern here.

2 C

We use Would you like to... to make a polite invitation or offer.

Tom is inviting his friend, so Would is the correct choice: Would you like to come with me?

Must and Should are for obligation or advice, not invitations. Shall is often used with we (Shall we...), not usually with you like to.

3 B

Signs that stop people from walking on grass use the phrasal verb Keep off.

Keep off the grass means do not step on or walk across the grass.

Keep on means continue. Get off often means leave a vehicle. Turn off is for switches or lights.

4 A

Phrasal verbs like keep off are used on signs and rules to tell people what they must not do.

Keep off the flower beds is a clear prohibition: do not walk on the flower beds.

The other options either misuse the particle or do not express a clear prohibition about staying away from something.

5 B

After verbs like ask, we use the to-infinitive to talk about an activity we want someone to do.

The pattern is: ask someone to + base verb → to read.

reading is a gerund, read without to is wrong after asked Mary, and reads is present simple, not an infinitive.

6 C

After want, we use the to-infinitive to talk about an activity we hope to do.

So we say want to visit.

visiting (gerund), visit (bare infinitive), and visited (past) do not fit after want in this pattern.

7 B

We use can't or mustn't to show that something is not allowed.

You can't block the doors clearly tells people the action is prohibited for safety.

Could is for polite requests or ability. Would like is for offers or wishes. Shall we makes a suggestion, not a prohibition.

8 C

Must expresses a strong obligation or necessity: something that is very important to do.

Mum wants Sam to improve, so You must work harder is suitable.

Could is softer and often for possibility or requests. Would and Shall do not show this kind of strong personal obligation here.

9

B

When a vehicle stops working suddenly, we say it broke down.

The minibus broke down describes the bad condition of the vehicle.

Broke up often means ended a relationship. Broke into means entered by force.

Broke off means stopped speaking or separated a piece.

10

C

The phrasal verb broke down describes a machine or vehicle that stops working.

Sita's car failed on the highway, so broke down is correct.

turned off means switched off power. gave up means stopped trying. kept off is used in prohibitions like "keep off the grass."