Modality

Mood is a grammatical category, typically expressed by verb inflection, which indicates what the speaker is doing with a proposition in/a particular discourse situation. Mood normally identifies the status of an utterance; for example, an utterance may be indicative (the usual form), imperative (a command), hortative (an exhortation), or subjunctive (a subordination). Mood is also referred to as modality or mode, especially when inflectional forms are not involved. Modal auxiliaries are verb-like words which typically express speakers' attitudes towards the factual content of an utterance, such as factuality, likelihood, uncertainty, possibility, and necessity (may, could, ought, etc.).

Modals: can, could; may, might; will, would; shall, should; must, (ought to). "Semi-modals": need, dare, used to, (ought to).

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Meanings Modal auxiliaries can may might could would will shall must should ought used to to possibility *** *** *** ** ability ** ** permission ... ۷ ۷ ۷ habit ♥♥ volition V W W ** (or wish) prediction W W (or future) unreal V *** ** meaning "tentative" . meaning strong obligation weak *** *** obligation strong *** deduction weak *** *** deduction past state or *** habit

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