

UNIT

5

Modals and Related Expressions

HIGH-TECH WORLD


The exhibition teamLab Borderless, which covers 107,000 square feet and features 50 examples of moving artwork that is designed to respond to and stimulate each of the senses, The Mori Building Digital Art Museum in Tokyo, Japan

The real danger is not that computers will begin to think like men, but that men will begin to think like computers.

SYDNEY J. HARRIS

Updating Your Password?

UPDATE YOUR THINKING FIRST

Read the following article. Pay special attention to the words in bold.  5.1

Let's face it: Passwords are a pain! While you **might think** it's a good idea to use your pet's name or your birth year, research shows that passwords **must be** much stronger now than in the past. You may have noticed that you **have to create** longer and more complex passwords for your new accounts. Instructions **might say** something like: You **must include** uppercase letters, special symbols, numbers, and so on. They **may also tell** us that we **cannot use** dates, repeated numbers, or other patterns. This **is supposed to provide** better protection, but in reality, most people still follow a small number of predictable behaviors. Criminals, meanwhile, are happy that you are doing this.

So, what **can you do** to create a strong but easy-to-remember password? It **has to be** strong enough to protect your information from increasingly sophisticated cybercriminals, but it **should still be** easy to remember. Here are a few tips from the experts:

1. You **should not use** easy-to-guess information such as a birthday or other personal details.
2. Choose a short, memorable sentence. Then take the first letter of each word and use that as the

base for your password. So, "Taylor Swift is my favorite singer." would become "TSimfs."

3. Whatever you choose as the base for your password, adding numbers and special symbols **can make** it stronger.
4. Do not keep your passwords in a notebook near your computer.
5. Yes, it's annoying, and yes, it takes time, but tell yourself that you **must create** a strong, safe password *every* time.

Of course, you **may be** tired of trying to remember different passwords for all your online activities, and this **could tempt** you to start using the same password for several different accounts. Bad idea! A recent study of 61 million passwords that hackers stole from websites found over 16 million passwords—more than 25 percent—that were reused or only slightly modified, making life very easy for hackers. This demonstrates that most of us do not take our online security seriously, but experts warn that we **had better start** to care, or one day, we **might regret** it.

COMPREHENSION Based on the reading, write T for *true* or F for *false*.

1. _____ It's a good idea to use personal information in your passwords.
2. _____ It's not advisable to use the same password for most of your accounts.
3. _____ According to a study, only around 25 percent of passwords are strong enough.

THINK ABOUT IT Discuss the questions with a partner or in a small group.

1. How concerned are you about cybercrime? Does it affect your enjoyment of the Internet? Explain.
2. Which of the password tips are the most important, in your opinion?

5.1 Modals—An Overview

The modal verbs are *can, could, should, would, may, might, must, and will*. Modals add meaning to the verbs that follow them.

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
You should change your password frequently. The password for my bank account must include at least one number.	A base form follows a modal. A modal never has an -s ending.
You should not tell anyone your password. I cannot remember so many passwords.	To form the negative, we put <i>not</i> after the modal. The negative of <i>can</i> is written as one word: <i>cannot</i> . The contraction for <i>cannot</i> is <i>can't</i> .
Passwords should be changed frequently. Passwords must be entered exactly.	To form the passive with a modal, we use the modal + <i>be</i> + past participle.
I can't remember so many passwords. = I am not able to remember so many passwords.	Expressions that are like modals in meaning are: <i>have to, have got to, be able to, be allowed to, be permitted to, be supposed to, had better</i> .
You must use letters and numbers. = You have to use letters and numbers.	

Observe these seven patterns with a modal:

AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENT:	You should choose a password.
NEGATIVE STATEMENT:	You shouldn't choose your name or birthday.
YES/NO QUESTION:	Should you choose a long password?
SHORT ANSWER:	Yes, you should .
WH- QUESTION:	Why should you choose a long password?
NEGATIVE WH- QUESTION:	Why shouldn't you choose your name?
SUBJECT QUESTION:	Who should choose a long password?

EXERCISE 1 Listen to the conversation. Write T for *true* or F for *false*.  5.2

1. _____ The woman has no trouble remembering her passwords.
2. _____ The man doesn't like having to create new passwords.
3. _____ The man and woman agree that technology has made life more complicated in some ways.

EXERCISE 2 Listen to the conversation. Fill in the blanks with the words you hear.  5.2

A: I'm trying to get into my credit card account, but I can't remember my password. ^{1.}

B: It's so frustrating. I _____ my passwords, either. I _____ them down. Otherwise I _____ them. The problem is I _____ where I put the paper. ^{2.} ^{3.} ^{4.} ^{5.}

A: I was told that you _____ them down. What if someone _____ into all your accounts? ^{6.} ^{7.}

B: Well, most sites have a "forgot your password" link.

A: The problem is, they often tell me I _____ a completely new password. They sometimes say, "You _____ a password that you haven't used in the past year." So then I _____ of something completely new—and remember it! ^{8.} ^{9.} ^{10.}

B: Another frustration is this: If I'm doing online banking and I leave the computer for 10 minutes, I get timed out. Then I _____ all over again. ^{11.}

A: I thought technology _____ our lives easier. ^{12.}

B: It _____ our lives in some ways, but in other ways, it has made our lives more complicated. ^{13.}

5.2 Possibility: May, Might, Could

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
The answer to my security question might be "King" or it may be "King High School" or it could be "King HS." I don't remember.	We use <i>may</i> , <i>might</i> , or <i>could</i> to show possibility about the present.
I may open a new account. I might start to do my banking online.	We use <i>may</i> or <i>might</i> to show possibility about the future.
You may not remember all your passwords. You might not be happy with technology.	For negative possibility, we use <i>may not</i> or <i>might not</i> . We don't make a contraction with <i>may not</i> or <i>might not</i> .
Maybe my password is my dog's name. My password may be my dog's name.	<i>Maybe</i> , written as one word, is an adverb. It usually comes before the subject. <i>May be</i> , written as two words, is a modal + verb. It comes after the subject.
I may/might change my password. Maybe I will change my password.	Compare using the modals <i>may</i> or <i>might</i> for the future with using <i>maybe</i> for the future.

Note:
We don't use *could not* for negative possibility. It means *was/were not able to*.

EXERCISE 3 This is a conversation between a granddaughter and a grandfather about technology. Change the *maybe* statement under each blank to a statement using the modal given.

A: I might buy a new computer. If I do, Grandpa, do you want my old one? It's two years old. ^{1. maybe I'll buy/might}

B: _____ two years old is old, but for me it's practically new. The one I have now is good enough for me. I just do e-mail. ^{2. maybe you think/may}

A: There's more than e-mail on a computer. _____ to try social media. ^{3. maybe you'll want/may}

B: I'm not interested in those things. _____ a lot of online friends, but I'd rather have two or three very good friends. ^{4. maybe you have/may}

A: OK. But there are practical things you can do, too. Have you ever tried online banking? _____ easier for you. ^{5. maybe it will be/might}

B: _____ right. But I like going into my bank and talking to real people. ^{6. maybe you are/could}

A: Why don't you just try it? Let me show you how.

B: No, thanks. I'll have to get a password. And _____ it. ^{7. maybe I won't remember/may}

A: If you think you'll forget it, you can keep a record of your passwords, using hints.

B: What do you mean?

A: For example, if my password is my dog's name, my hint is "DOG." Let me help you get a hint for each password.

B: If I tell you my passwords, _____ all my money! ^{8. maybe you will steal/might}

A: Very funny, Grandpa.

5.3 Necessity/Obligation: Must, Have to, Have Got to

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
This password must include one uppercase letter. It must be at least eight characters long.	<i>Must</i> shows necessity or obligation based on a rule, a law, or an instruction. It has an official or formal tone.
Sometimes you have to answer security questions. Your password has to have at least one number.	<i>Have to</i> shows necessity or obligation. It has a less official tone than <i>must</i> .
For my bank account, I've got to choose a password. It's got to be very strong.	<i>Have got to</i> is an informal way to show necessity or obligation. <i>Have</i> and <i>has</i> are usually contracted with the subject pronoun.
My old computer was too slow. I had to buy a new one last week.	For past necessity or obligation, we use <i>had to</i> .

continued

Note:

When using *have to*, don't make a contraction with the subject pronoun and *have*.

I have to change my password.

NOT I've to change my password.

Pronunciation Notes:

1. *Have to* is usually pronounced *hafta* or /hæftə/ and *has to* is usually pronounced *hastə* or /hæstə/.
2. With *have got to*, *got to* is often pronounced *gotta* or /gatə/.

GRAMMAR IN USE

When talking about a personal obligation, we tend to avoid *must* because it sounds very official or urgent and is too strong for personal situations. It is more natural to use *have to* or *have got to*.

I have to open an online account.

I've got to choose a username and password.

EXERCISE 4 Two friends are talking about online banking. Use the phrases from the box to fill in the blanks. Use contractions where possible.

have got to meet	must use	have to do	have to fill out	must have
have to remember	have to click	have got to leave ✓	have to log on	has got to match
have got to copy	have got to include	must be copied	had to learn	

A: Can you help me access my bank account online?

B: I have got to leave ^{1.} in about 15 minutes. But I think we have enough time. First you _____ ^{2.}. Have you ever signed in before?

A: I'm not sure. Maybe not.

B: Then you _____ ^{3.} "register here."

A: OK. Now I _____ ^{4.} this long form.

B: The information here _____ ^{5.} the information on your bank account. So if you used "David," you _____ ^{6.} "David" here, too. Don't use "Dave."

A: Of course, I knew that!

B: Now you need a password. It _____ ^{7.} at least one uppercase letter. And you _____ ^{8.} at least one number.

A: OK. But now I'm going to _____ ^{9.} one more password. Now what do I _____ ^{10.} ?

B: See those funny letters and numbers? You _____ ^{11.} them.

A: They're so hard to read. What's this for?

B: It's a safety feature. The letters and numbers _____ ^{12.} exactly.

A: You're so good with computers.

B: I haven't always been so good. I _____ ^{13.}, just like you. It's getting late, and I _____ ^{14.} a friend in half an hour.

A: Thanks for your help! See you later.

ABOUT YOU Write a few obligations you have at your job, at your school, with your friends, or with your family. Use modals of necessity or obligation. Share your answers with a partner.

1. My grandmother bought a new computer. I have to help her set it up on Saturday.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

5.4 Expectation: Be Supposed To

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
I'm supposed to help my parents with their smart phones. We are supposed to change our passwords every 30 days. Technology is supposed to make our lives simpler, but sometimes it doesn't.	Something may be expected because of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a personal obligation • a law or a requirement • something we are told to expect
I know I'm supposed to change my password every month, but I don't do it. I know I'm not supposed to write down my passwords, but I do.	<i>Be supposed to</i> shows a rule that is frequently broken or an expectation that isn't met.
I was supposed to help you with your computer yesterday, but I forgot.	For the past, we use <i>was/were supposed to</i> . It shows an expectation or obligation that was not met.

Pronunciation Note:

The *d* and *t* in *supposed to* link together and form one sound. *Supposed to* sounds like *supposta* or /sʌpɒʊzɪtə/

EXERCISE 5 Fill in the blanks using a form of *be supposed to* and one of the words from the box. If you see *not*, use the negative. Use contractions where possible.

copy	make	memorize	pay	send	use
help	meet	open	read✓	text	

- When you see "I accept," you 're supposed to read what it says, but most people don't.
- Typing those funny letters and numbers _____ the website safer.
- You _____ those numbers and letters exactly as you see them.
- My friends and I share music online. I know we _____ for the music, but we often give it to each other for free.
- I know I _____ all my passwords, but I can't. So I write them in a notebook.
- Students (*not*) _____ in class, but I often see them texting under their desks.
- My bank _____ me a statement each month, but I didn't get one this month. I'll look for it online.
- I typed in my password, but I got an error message. Oh, now I know what I did wrong. I _____ uppercase for the first letter, but I used lowercase by mistake.
- Children under 13 (*not*) _____ a social media account, but some kids lie about their age and open an account anyway.
- My grandparents don't know much about computers. I _____ them this weekend.
- You _____ me at 6:00 to help me with my computer. It's 7:30. Did you forget?

EXERCISE 6 Report some rules in the following places: in your home or dorm, in traffic, on the Internet, in a library, in class, on an airplane, or at an airport. Use *must* to give an official tone. Use *have to* or *be supposed to* to give an informal tone.

- In an airport, you must take off your shoes when you go through security.
- In my dorm, we're not supposed to make noise after 11 p.m.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

ABOUT YOU Write some rules, customs, or expectations that you don't (or didn't) follow. Discuss your answers with a partner.

- I'm supposed to turn off my cell phone in class, but I sometimes forget to do it.
- I was supposed to write a paper for my history class, but I didn't have time.
- _____
- _____
- _____

5.5 Advice: *Should, Ought to, Had Better*

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
You should change your password every month.	<i>Should</i> shows advisability. It is used to say that something is a good idea.
You shouldn't use your birthday.	<i>Shouldn't</i> means that something is a bad idea.
Before I click "accept," I ought to read the terms, but I never do.	<i>Ought to</i> is another way of saying <i>should</i> .
You ought to use online banking. It's much quicker than going into a bank.	<i>Ought to</i> is not usually used for negatives and questions.
My password is too weak. I'd better choose a stronger one. Your password should be a secret. You'd better not tell it to anyone.	<i>Had better</i> is used in conversation and informal writing for advisability. It states or implies a negative consequence. We use 'd to contract <i>had</i> with a pronoun.

Pronunciation Notes:

- Ought to* is sometimes pronounced like one word: *oughta*.
- The 'd in *had better* is often omitted or hard to hear and sounds like *you better*.

EXERCISE 7 Give advice for each situation. Practice *should, ought to, and had better*.

- My computer is about seven years old. It's very slow.
In my opinion, you should throw it away and buy a new one. A seven-year-old computer is too old.
- I can't decide if I should buy a laptop or a desktop computer.

- My little brother uses my laptop a lot. I think it has a virus now.

continued

4. My daughter is 10 years old and wants a social media account.

5. I have at least 25 passwords, and I can't remember them. So I wrote them all down and keep the paper near my computer.

EXERCISE 8 Fill in the blanks with one of the phrases from the box.

you shouldn't make	I should give	he shouldn't play	should I buy ✓	I'd better do	you ought to protect	should I do
you'd better not use	you'd better be	you should choose	he ought to play	you ought to set up	'd better choose	

1. **A:** My old computer isn't fast enough. Should I buy a new one or add more memory to my old one? My computer's already nine years old.

B: That's a *very* old computer.

A: Maybe _____ it to my grandson.

B: He probably likes to play games, so he's probably not interested in a slow computer.

A: You're right. But I think _____ computer games.
_____ with friends, not just computers.

2. **A:** Can I use your laptop for a few minutes? Can you fill in your password?

B: I don't have a password.

A: That's not good. _____ your laptop with a password.

B: I don't think that's necessary. That's just one more password to remember.

A: What if someone steals your laptop? _____ it easy for the thief to access your accounts. Mine was stolen in a coffee shop once.

B: Really? How did that happen?

A: I left it on the table and went to buy coffee. When I came back, it was gone! _____ careful and password-protect your computer as soon as possible.

B: _____ it right now. I'll use my birthday.

A: _____ such an obvious password. Choose something that's more secure.

3. **A:** My younger brother uses my laptop when I'm at work. Sometimes he goes into my files.

What _____ ?

B: _____ a guest account. That way he can't get into your files.

A: How do I do that?

B: I can help you. Let me see your computer . . . OK. I set up a guest account for you. A guest doesn't need a password, but your account does. _____ a password that your brother can't guess.

A: Even more important, I _____ a password that I can remember!

EXERCISE 9 Circle the correct modal or expression to complete the sentences. In some cases, both answers are possible. In those cases, circle both choices.

- You ('d better not / *must not*) write your passwords on a piece of paper. What if someone finds the paper?
- For each new account, you (*'ve got to* / *should*) choose a password.
- Some websites require an uppercase letter. For those sites, you (*'re supposed to* / *ought to*) include at least one uppercase letter.
- I'm so tired of passwords. Why (*do I have to* / *should I*) remember so many passwords?
- Sometimes when you forget your password, you (*have to* / *'d better*) answer some questions, such as "What's the name of your pet?"
- You (*must* / *should*) choose a password that's hard for other people to guess. So it's not a good idea to use your birthday.
- I know I (*ought to* / *should*) create a strong password, but I like using the same password for all my accounts.
- I got timed out of my account when I answered the phone. When I came back, I (*had to* / *must*) log in again.
- Your password is case-sensitive. That means you (*must* / *ought to*) type it exactly the way you typed it originally, with uppercase and lowercase letters.
- They say you (*should* / *must*) change your password every month, but I never do.
- My grandmother needs help with her online bank account. I promised to help her tomorrow. She (*is supposed to* / *must*) bring her laptop to my house. But it (*must* / *is supposed to*) snow tomorrow, so I don't know if she's still coming.
- Those funny letters and numbers are so hard to read. You (*ought to* / *'ve got to*) copy them exactly.

ABOUT YOU Write sentences about computers, passwords, online shopping, online banking, or online music using the words given. Discuss your sentences with a partner.

1. have to *When I order something online, I sometimes have to pay for shipping.*
2. should _____
3. have got to _____
4. must _____
5. ought to _____
6. had better _____
7. be supposed to _____

5.6 Suggestion: Can/Could

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
To remember passwords, you can create a hint for each password. You could keep the hint in a notebook.	We use <i>can</i> and <i>could</i> to give suggestions.
You can open a bank account online, or you could go into the bank and do it in person. You should change your password frequently.	We use <i>can</i> or <i>could</i> when several options are possible. We use <i>should</i> when you feel that there is only one right way.

EXERCISE 10 Offer two suggestions to answer each of the following questions. You may work with a partner. Use *can* or *could*.

1. How can I make my password more secure?
You can mix uppercase and lowercase letters. You could include a number or symbol.
2. How can I open a new bank account?

3. How can I remember all my passwords?

4. How can I pay for something online?

5. How can I compare prices on a new TV?

Taking a Break from Technology

Read the following article. Pay special attention to the words in bold. **5.3**

Levi Felix has started a new kind of summer camp in California called Camp Grounded. Even though it's only three days long, campers can get away from their daily routine and swim, hike, take yoga classes, and enjoy nature. Most of all, campers can interact with each other. So what's so special about this camp? It's only for adults. And there's one important rule: Campers **must not be** connected to technology while there.

Many adults report that when they are on vacation, they **aren't able to stay away** from their devices and often check their work-related e-mails. Even when out in nature, they **may not take** the time

to admire a spectacular mountain before pulling out their smartphone to take a picture.

Levi Felix wants people to interact with each other, not with their tech devices. At Camp Grounded, campers **are not allowed to talk** about their jobs. They **are not even permitted to use** their real names. They have to pick a nickname. They are supposed to get to know each other as people, not through their professional lives. Felix hopes that campers can get to know themselves better as well.

Why do people have to go to camp to do this? Why not just unplug for the weekend? Many people say that they **can't control** themselves when they have a device nearby. They know they **don't have to respond** every time they hear a beep from their phone, but they do.

Felix is not against technology, but he thinks technology **shouldn't control** us. We **don't have to give up** our devices, but we need more balance in our lives.

A young woman paddles a kayak in the morning near Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

COMPREHENSION Based on the reading, write T for *true* or F for *false*.

- _____ Levi Felix has created a technology camp for adults.
- _____ At Felix's camp, people talk about their professions.
- _____ Felix wants adults to interact with each other at his camp.

THINK ABOUT IT Discuss the questions with a partner or in a small group.

- Would you like to visit a place like Camp Grounded? What would you find enjoyable? What would you find difficult? Give your reasons.
- Describe the role technology plays in your life. Do you feel you are too dependent on your computer, phone, and so on? Explain.

5.7 Negative Modals

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
Campers must not be connected to technology while there.	<i>Must not</i> shows that something is prohibited. It has an official tone.
Campers cannot use technology at this camp. They may not talk about work. They are not allowed to use a cell phone. They are not permitted to use their real names.	<i>Cannot</i> and <i>may not</i> show that something is not permitted. The meaning is similar to <i>must not</i> but is less formal. Other expressions that show prohibition are <i>be not allowed to</i> and <i>be not permitted to</i> .
Campers are not supposed to talk about their jobs. I wasn't supposed to use my cell phone at camp, but I did.	<i>Be not supposed to</i> is also used to show that something is not permitted. It is often used when a rule has already been broken.
Technology shouldn't control you. You should control technology.	<i>Should not</i> shows that something is not advisable.
If your phone beeps, you don't have to respond to it immediately. You can wait.	<i>Not have to</i> shows that something is not necessary or required.

Notes:

- In the affirmative, *have to* and *must* have the same meaning, although *must* sounds more official.
You must give up your cell phone for three days. = *You have to give up your cell phone for three days.*
- In the negative, the meanings are completely different. *Must not* shows prohibition. *Not have to* shows that something is not necessary or required.
One camp rule is that you must not use a cell phone for three days.
When my cell phone rings, I don't have to answer it. I can wait.

EXERCISE 11 Circle the correct words in each item about Camp Grounded. In some cases, both answers are possible. In those cases, circle both choices.

- At Camp Grounded, you (may not / *don't have to*) use a cell phone.
- When your phone rings, you (*cannot* / *don't have to*) answer it if it's not an emergency.
- According to Levi Felix, technology (*shouldn't* / *can't*) control you.
- At Camp Grounded, you (*don't have to* / *are not allowed to*) use technology.

- Campers (*aren't supposed to* / *don't have to*) bring their devices to camp, but some of them do.
- According to the camp rules, you (*must not* / *may not*) use a tech device for three days.
- If you don't want to take a yoga class at camp, you (*must not* / *don't have to*). It's your choice.
- I want a break from technology. I (*don't have to* / *shouldn't*) go to camp. I can just turn off my phone.
- You (*may not* / *don't have to*) use a computer at Camp Grounded.

EXERCISE 12 Circle the correct words to complete the conversation. In some cases, both answers are possible. In those cases, circle both choices.

A: Every time I get a credit card or bank statement, I just throw it in the garbage.

B: You (shouldn't / *don't have to*) do that. Someone (*can* / should) steal your identity. I read that thieves go through the garbage looking for personal information.

A: But they (*don't have to* / can't) use my number without my credit card.

B: They can and they do. They make purchases by phone and charge it to your credit card. You (*may not* / might not) realize your information has been stolen till you review your bill a month later. You (*must not* / shouldn't) just throw away papers with personal information. You (*must* / should) shred them. You (*could* / can) buy a shredder at an office supply store or online. Look. On this shopping site, if you spend over \$25, you (*are not supposed to* / *don't have to*) pay for shipping.

A: OK. I'll buy one.

B: I do all my bill payments online. This way I (*don't have to* / must not) write any checks.

A: I don't know how to set up an online account. Can you help me?

B: Sure. Let's find your bank's website. OK. Now choose a password. You (*shouldn't* / *don't have to*) use your birthday. It's too easy for a thief to figure out.

A: OK. Let me try my mother's maiden name. Oh. It rejected this.

B: You used all letters. You (*couldn't* / can't) use just letters. You (*have to* / can) include at least one number. Now try to memorize it.

A: I (*'m not supposed to* / can't) memorize so many passwords. It's impossible.

B: You (*have to* / ve got to) find a way to keep track of your passwords.

ABOUT YOU Write about a rule, law, or custom from your country or culture that other people may find strange.



A group of people on a DNA profile

Could Your Ancestry Research CATCH A KILLER?

Read the following article. Pay special attention to the words in bold. **5.4**

We've all seen the ads for websites that provide you with information on your ancestry¹. On some sites, you **can send** in a sample of your DNA² and in a short time find out more about where you came from and discover people around the world that you are related to. The availability of such sites has skyrocketed in recent years. The number of customers using ancestry sites was just a few hundred thousand in 2013 but jumped to over 15 million in 2018. Some people go to great lengths to trace their ancestry and **might spend** several hours a week on their search. Others **may only be** interested in a bit of fun. But how many of these millions of users realize that their hobby **might be helping** the police find a killer?

In 2018, police in Sacramento, California, **were able to track down** and **capture** a man known as the Golden State Killer. He had committed a series of horrible crimes in the 1970s and 80s, including 13 murders. With the use of ancestry sites, police **could compare** the DNA data that was collected from

the crime scene with that of ancestry site users living in the area where the murders took place. Then, when a DNA match was found, the police **were able to locate** relatives that fit the killer's profile and who lived in the area. When they narrowed down their search to one suspect, they collected a new DNA sample from him. His sample matched the DNA of the killer. Without the use of ancestry sites, this individual **could still be walking** the streets as a free man.

So, on the face of it, this use of modern technology seems to be a good thing. But **should we be looking** at this issue with regard to personal privacy, too? Police **were able to get** genetic information of the murderer's relatives without permission. You put your information online for personal reasons and find out later that it was used without your knowledge. Is this acceptable?

¹ ancestry: people who were in your family in previous times

² DNA: a substance in human and animal cells that carries genetic information

COMPREHENSION Based on the reading, write T for *true* or F for *false*.

- _____ Ancestry sites are more popular than they have ever been before.
- _____ A relative told police the identity of the Golden Gate Killer.
- _____ It is easy for the police to obtain information from ancestry sites.

THINK ABOUT IT Discuss the questions with a partner or in a small group.

- Should the police get permission to use people's online DNA information?
- What do you think about the man who was arrested in the California case? Explain.

5.8 Ability/Possibility: *Can, Be Able To*

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
You can research your family history on an ancestry site. You can't stop the police using your information.	<i>Can</i> shows ability or possibility.
Are you able to find distant relatives?	<i>Be able to</i> is another way to express ability/possibility.
Could you do the DNA test? = Were you able to do the DNA test? I couldn't do the DNA test. = I wasn't able to do the DNA test.	We use <i>could</i> or <i>was/were able to</i> for past questions and negative statements.
I was able to find several new cousins.	In affirmative past statements, we use <i>was/were able to</i> for a single past action.
I could only find out about close relatives before I joined an ancestry site.	We use <i>could</i> to express <i>used to be able to</i> .

Pronunciation Note:

Can is usually reduced in affirmative statements. The vowel almost disappears. In negative statements, *can't* is stressed, and the vowel is clear. We must pay attention to the stress to hear the difference between *can* and *can't*.

I can go. /k'n/ go. I can't go. /kænt/ go.

EXERCISE 13 Ancestry sites have advantages and disadvantages. Fill in the blanks with one of the phrases from the box to complete the statements about ancestry sites.

can catch	can't find	are you able to keep	are able to obtain	can find out ✓
can find	wasn't able to get	can carry out	couldn't identify	

- On an ancestry site, you can find out about relatives all around the world.
- _____ your information private?
- Currently, the police _____ information from ancestry sites without permission.
- Do you think you _____ everyone in your family on an ancestry site?

continued

5. The police _____ criminals by locating one of their relatives and matching DNA with evidence from a crime scene.
6. The investigator _____ her DNA information until he got permission.
7. Starting your DNA research is easy: Anyone _____ the simple test.
8. You _____ all your relatives on an ancestry site because the databases are incomplete.
9. The police obtained DNA information from an ancestry site, but they _____ the criminal they were chasing.

5.9 Logical Conclusion: *Must*

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
When Ariana saw her DNA results, she thought, "This must be a mistake. I don't believe I am part Swedish." This site says you can find relatives you don't know exist. That must be exciting!	<i>Must</i> shows that something is probably true. It is used to make a conclusion based on information we have or observations we make.
A: How many living relatives do you have? B: I must have at least 50.	We can use <i>must</i> to make an estimate.
A: Are you going to the family reunion? B: Oh, you must not know that it's been postponed. A: No! Really? Why? B: Grandma and Grandpa must not be back from their trip yet.	For a negative conclusion, we use <i>must not</i> . We don't use a contraction.

EXERCISE 14 Fill in the blanks with an appropriate verb to make a logical conclusion. Use context clues to help you. Answers may vary.

1. **A:** I signed up for a no-tech camp. I plan on having a vacation from technology.
B: You must feel nervous about being without your devices for a few days.
A: I'm not nervous. I'm looking forward to a break from technology.
2. **A:** Kids love technology. They don't want to be without it for a minute.
B: Teachers must _____ angry when cell phones ring during class.
A: The kids are smart about it. They silence their phones in class.
3. **A:** I have a computer problem. I don't know how to fix it.
B: Ask your teenage son. He's on his computer all day. He must _____ what to do. Kids know much more about computers than we do.

4. **A:** How many text messages do you send every day?
B: A lot. I must _____ between 100 and 200 messages a day.
A: You must not _____ using the telephone very much.
B: For me, texting is more convenient than talking on the phone.
5. **A:** Do you use the same password for all your accounts?
B: Of course not. Like most people, I must _____ more than 30 passwords.
A: It must _____ hard to remember so many passwords.
B: It is. It's very hard.
6. **A:** Katya always sends and receives text messages during class.
B: Who's Katya?
A: You must _____ who I'm talking about. She's the tall woman who sits between us in class.
B: Oh, now I know. I always call her Kathy.
7. **A:** I hear your ringtone is a Beyoncé song.
B: It is.
A: You must _____ Beyoncé very much.
B: I do. She's one of my favorite singers.
8. **A:** My sister has just joined an ancestry website. She's going to take a DNA test as soon as it arrives.
B: Really? She must not _____ that the police can obtain your DNA information from those sites, then. You should tell her.
A: Tell her what? I don't know anything about this.
B: Oh, you must _____! We read an article about it in class last month!
9. **A:** Whenever I text my daughter, she usually writes "LOL." She probably means "Lots of love."
B: You must not _____ much about texting abbreviations. "LOL" means "Laughing out loud."

5.10 Probability vs. Possibility: *Must vs. May, Might, Could*

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
<p>A: You're getting the results of your DNA test this week, aren't you? You must be excited!</p> <p>B: Yes, I can't wait!</p>	<p>If something is probable because an observation leads to a logical conclusion, we use <i>must</i>.</p>
<p>A: You might not realize it, but ancestry websites can cause you a lot of problems.</p> <p>B: That's crazy.</p> <p>A: You may not believe it, but a man was arrested because of them.</p> <p>B: I suppose you could be right.</p>	

EXERCISE 15 Work with a partner to write a statement about the person who made each comment. Use *must, may, might, or could* to say who the person is, how the person feels, or any other information.

1. The police used my DNA information without my permission.

The person must be angry.

2. I discovered I have cousins in Australia!

3. But I believed my DNA information was private!

4. I sent in my test weeks ago, but I haven't received my results yet.

5. The ancestry site lost my DNA sample.

6. A criminal relative was caught by police because I decided to research my family history through an ancestry site.

7. An innocent family member was arrested because police obtained my DNA sample.

8. Police came to my house and questioned me after reviewing my brother's DNA information on an ancestry site.

EXERCISE 16 Circle the correct words to complete each sentence.

- A:** I've decided not to do the DNA test for the ancestry site I joined.

B: But you already paid, didn't you?

A: Yes, I did. But I couldn't *can't* go ahead after I realized the police can look at your information without your permission.

B: How much *(should you/did you have to)* pay?

A: \$99, plus tax.

B: You *(must/are supposed to)* be upset about that!
- A:** I just filled out this online application. I clicked "I accept."

B: You *(were supposed to/had to)* read the agreement before accepting.

A: Nobody reads that.
- A:** Did you read about Camp Grounded?

B: Yeah. It's not for me. I *(don't have to/can't)* be without my cell phone for a whole weekend.

A: You *(must/should)* be very dependent on it.

B: I am.

continued

Many adults today go to special camps to "unplug" or take a break from technology.



4. **A:** What do you think about the case of the Golden State Killer? The police (*didn't have to/must not*)^{a.} get permission to obtain DNA information from ancestry websites. I'm shocked!
- B:** Well, they (*couldn't/can't*)^{b.} catch the murderer without that information. I think they (*had to/must*)^{c.} take the information to keep the local people safe.
- A:** I guess that's true. Still, I'm not sure what I'm going to write in my assignment.
- B:** Assignment?
- A:** Yes. For next week, we (*should/'ve got to*)^{d.} write a composition. We (*'re supposed to/'re able to*)^{e.} write our opinions about the case.
5. **A:** Technology (*must/is supposed to*)^{a.} make our lives easier. But I have so many passwords, and now I (*can't/don't have to*)^{b.} remember all of them. I (*may/must*)^{c.} have at least 25.
- B:** You (*should/must*)^{d.} give yourself a hint for each one. For example, I have the hint "FRST SCHL."
- A:** That's easy. It (*should/must*)^{e.} mean "first school." What if someone (*is able to/is supposed to*)^{f.} understand your hint? Your friends (*might/are supposed to*)^{g.} know it.
- B:** I'm not worried about my friends. I'm worried about thieves!
6. **A:** I'm so happy. My vacation starts tomorrow. I (*must not/don't have to*)^{a.} work for a week. I hope I won't be bored. Any ideas on what I can do?
- B:** You (*must/could*)^{b.} read. Or you (*can/should*)^{c.} just surf the Internet.
- A:** I (*must/could*)^{d.} spend at least 20 hours a week on my computer at work. Now that I'm on vacation, I want a break from technology.
7. **A:** Can you help me with my computer problem this afternoon?
- B:** Sorry, I can't. I (*'m supposed to/could*)^{a.} help my mom this afternoon. She's expecting me.
8. **A:** I'm going to trace my ancestry online. Do you want to trace yours, too? We could do the DNA test together.
- B:** No, I (*'d better not/might not*)^{a.} —I can't stand the sight of blood!
- A:** Oh, come on, it's just a drop. You (*may/should*)^{b.} be braver!
9. **A:** I heard your parents gave you \$1,000 for your graduation. What are you going to do with the money?
- B:** I (*might/must*)^{a.} buy a new computer. I (*don't have to/must not*)^{b.} make up my mind right away. I'm going to think about it first.

5.11 Continuous Modals

EXAMPLES	EXPLANATION
My son is at camp. I haven't heard from him all week. He must be having a good time.	We use the modal + <i>be</i> + present participle (verb <i>-ing</i>) for a present continuous meaning.
Sam is looking at his phone under his desk. He might be texting . Or he could be using the Internet. He should be paying attention.	

EXERCISE 17 Fill in the blanks with a verb phrase from the box.

could be charging	might be taking ✓	must be talking	shouldn't be texting
might be preventing	must be making	could be learning	shouldn't be using

1. **A:** My friend isn't answering his phone. I know he always has his cell phone with him.
- B:** He might be taking a shower now. I'm sure he doesn't take his phone into the shower!
- Or he _____ it now. Maybe his battery is dead.
2. **A:** I don't think the police should have access to public ancestry sites. They _____ people's private information that way.
- B:** But the police _____ further crimes, and that's a good thing.
3. **A:** You _____ in class.
- B:** I know. But I have to send an important message to my mom right now.
4. **A:** My friends don't want to take a DNA test.
- B:** That's odd. They _____ about their family.
5. **A:** It looks like that man is talking to himself.
- B:** He _____ on a cell phone. Look carefully. He's wearing headphones.
6. **A:** More people than ever are signing up to online ancestry sites these days.
- B:** I know. They _____ a huge amount of money!

FUN WITH GRAMMAR

Race your classmates! Work in a group of three. Read a situation. You must write as many sentences as possible in two minutes using modals of probability or possibility. Which group wrote the most sentences?

Example: You notice classmates cheating on a test.

They might misunderstand the rules.

They must be desperate for a good grade.

They must be crazy!

They shouldn't be cheating.

Situations:

- You realize you lost your friends while hiking in the mountains.
- Your doctor tells you that you need to exercise, but you feel fine.
- You have been offered two jobs: one pays a lot of money, and the other pays very little, but is something you really want to do.

SUMMARY OF UNIT 5

EXAMPLES	MEANING
To use this ancestry site, you must take a DNA test.	Necessity or obligation because of a rule, law, or instruction (official tone)
You must not cheat on the test.	Negative: prohibition
I have to choose a password to bank online. She's got to send a sample of her DNA. If your phone beeps, you don't have to look at it.	Necessity or obligation (unofficial tone) Negative: not necessary
I'm supposed to read the agreement before clicking "I accept." But I never do. Technology is supposed to make our lives easier. At a no-tech camp, campers are not supposed to bring their cell phones, but some people do.	Expectation because of a rule or requirement, or because we are told what to expect Negative: prohibition; rule often broken or instructions not followed
You should change your password frequently. You ought to use a combination of lowercase and uppercase letters. You shouldn't use your name or birthday in your password.	Advice
You'd better think carefully before providing your DNA to an online ancestry site. You'd better not join an ancestry site if you are concerned about privacy.	Warning: negative consequence is stated or implied
You can/may discover you have relatives you never knew existed. You are allowed to/are permitted to join as many ancestry sites as you wish. You can't/may not prevent the police from reviewing your online DNA information.	Permission Negative: prohibition; less formal than <i>must not</i>
I can't understand all the fuss about online ancestry sites. Before ancestry sites, you could trace your family history, but it took a lot of time and effort.	Ability/inability Past ability/inability
With your DNA information online, you may/might/could get some unpleasant surprises.	Possibility
How can I get away from technology? You could turn off all your devices for a few days. Or you can go to a no-tech camp.	Suggestions
It must be hard for some people to give up technology for a few days. I must have at least 50 passwords.	Logical conclusion about the present An estimate

REVIEW

Each item mentions an aspect of creating an online bank account. Circle the right words to complete the statement. In some cases, both answers are correct, so circle both options.

- Sign up online or call this toll-free number: 800-555-1234
I (can/might) enroll online, or I (*could/must*) call a toll-free number.
- If you call us, please have your Social Security number ready.
I (*don't have to/can't*) apply for online banking without a Social Security number.
- Choose a password. Use at least one uppercase letter, one lowercase letter, one symbol, and one number.
I (*can've got to*) choose a complicated password. How (*am I supposed to/must I*) remember all of that?
- Apply now. You can have an account in a few minutes.
I (*must not/don't have to*) go into a bank. I (*can/should*) do my banking any time of day.
- We need a driver's license or state ID.
I don't have a driver's license. It says I (*am supposed to/can*) use a state ID.
- What's the best phone number where we can reach you? What is your alternate number? (optional)
I (*shouldn't/don't have to*) give an alternate phone number.
- There are three types of accounts. Choose one.
I'm not sure which is the best for me. I (*ought to/should*) call the bank for more information.
- After you read the agreement, click "I accept."
I (*'m supposed to/may*) read the whole agreement, but it's too hard to understand.
- For information in Spanish, click here. (Para información en español, haga clic aquí.)
Spanish speakers (*should/can*) get information in Spanish.
- Do you want to sign up for automatic bill payment? (optional)
I (*can/have to*) sign up for automatic bill payment if I want to.
- There are so many questions on this application.
There (*must/should*) be at least 30 questions. It (*could/was supposed to*) be an easy process, but it's not.
- If you apply today, you will get a check for \$50.
That sounds like a good idea. I (*am supposed to/should*) apply today.
- Only U.S. citizens can apply online. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please visit one of our banking locations.
I (*must/have to*) be a U.S. citizen to apply online. I'm not a U.S. citizen, so I (*can't/must not*) apply online.

FROM GRAMMAR TO WRITING

PART 1 Editing Advice

1. Don't use *to* after a modal (exception: *ought to*).

You should ~~to~~ drive more carefully.

2. Don't forget the **d** in *supposed to*.

You are suppose^d to stop at a red light.

3. Don't forget the **d** to express *had* in *had better*.

You^{'d} better not provide your DNA if you are worried.

4. Use *have/has* before *got to*.

You^{'ve} got to have a password for each account.

5. Don't forget *be* or *to* in these expressions: *be supposed to*, *be able to*, *be permitted to*, *be allowed to*.

You^{are} supposed to be careful with your private information.

I'm not able^{to} remember so many passwords.

6. Use correct word order in a question with a modal.

How ~~I can~~ trace my family history?

7. Don't put *can* after another modal. Change to *be able to*.

You must ~~can~~ pay in advance to receive your DNA test in the mail.

PART 2 Editing Practice

Some of the shaded words and phrases have mistakes. Find the mistakes and correct them. If the shaded words are correct, write C.

I don't think technology is good for small children. Kids **should to** play with other kids, not just devices. How **can they** develop social skills if they always play with devices? I have a five-year-old nephew. He **must to spend** at least four hours a day on his tablet. He doesn't even like to watch TV anymore. He **should spend** more time outdoors with other kids. I often tell my brother, "You **better** put some limits on how much time Kyle can play with his tablet." My brother always tells me, "What **we can do**? We're too busy to take him to the park to play." I think my brother and his wife **supposed to** set a good example for their son. Instead, Kyle sees his parents always texting, tweeting, checking e-mail, etc. They think he should **be able** have good technology skills before he goes to school. I **can't convince** my brother and sister-in-law to change their habits.

My sister is raising her daughter differently. Maya is four years old, and she **not permitted** use technology at all. My sister thinks that Maya **got to** learn social skills first. She's not **allow to** watch more than one TV program a day. In nice weather, she's **got to play** outside and get some exercise. Sometimes she sees her friends playing with a tablet. She asks my sister, "Why **I can't** have a tablet?" My sister **has to** explain to her that people are more important than electronic devices. It's not easy raising children today. But we **got to** set a good example for them.

WRITING TIP

After you brainstorm ideas for a writing topic, it's always a good idea to organize those ideas. A T-chart is especially helpful when your topic can be divided into two sides, such as with advantages and disadvantages.

TECHNOLOGY IN DAILY LIVES	
ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES
convenience	distraction

PART 3 Write

Read the two prompts. Choose one and write one or more paragraphs about it.

1. Write about some advantages and disadvantages of technology in our daily lives.
2. Do you think it's important to take a break from technology from time to time? Why or why not?

PART 4 Edit

Reread the Summary of Unit 5 and the Editing Advice. Edit your writing from Part 3.