

4.8 Language in focus

Modality – alternative structures

I can use a range of alternative structures to express modality.

- 1 Read the information about modality and complete the table with the base form of the structures in blue in sentences a–e.

As well as using modal verbs, you can express modality with adverbs (perhaps, etc.), adjectives and participles (be sure to, be obliged to, etc.), or other verbs (manage to, etc.). Here are some of the more common structures:

MODAL CONCEPT	ALTERNATIVE STRUCTURES
probability	be (un)likely to do sth, it is (un)likely that ... 1 _____, be sure to do sth, be certain to do sth
ability	be (un)able to do sth, manage to do sth, 2 _____
permission	3 _____, be permitted to do sth
prohibition	4 _____, be forbidden to do sth/from doing sth
obligation	be obliged to do sth, be required to do sth 5 _____, be meant to do sth

- a My brothers and sisters **are banned from** entering my bedroom.
b I'm **supposed to** keep my bedroom tidy but I can't be bothered.
c I can't find my house keys but **they're bound to** turn up sooner or later.
d I **succeeded in** transferring all my photos to my new laptop recently.
e My mum says I'm **allowed to** get a tattoo but I don't want one.
- 2 Translate the sentences in Exercise 1. Then tick the sentences that are true for you.
- 3 Rewrite the sentences. Replace the underlined phrases with phrases that include the words in capitals.
- 1 Tim is late. He should be here by now. **MEANT**
2 Rogers can't compete for three years because he failed a drugs test. **FROM**
3 Janet couldn't persuade her parents to lend her any money. **IN**
4 Terry should have called me last night, but he forgot. **SUPPOSED**
5 Everybody has to show their ID card when they enter the UK. **REQUIRED**
- 4 Complete the conversation with one word in each gap. Use each word once only. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.
- A: I've got a part-time job in the local supermarket. I'm ¹supposed to be there at 7 a.m. but I'm not sure if I'll ²_____ to get up in time!
B: What are you going to wear?
A: You have to wear smart shoes. Trainers are ³_____ and you're not ⁴_____ to wear jewellery or piercings. You are ⁵_____ to put on a uniform and I think I'm ⁶_____ to wear a hat if I'm working on the fresh food counter.
B: What about phones?
A: You're ⁷_____ to bring a mobile phone onto the premises but it has to be switched off at all times.
B: Knowing you, you're ⁸_____ to forget. What happens if it rings?
A: I'm not sure, but it's ⁹_____ that the manager would be very angry, so I'll be ¹⁰_____ to switch mine off tomorrow!

04 WORD LIST

Types of shops

baker's /'beɪkəz/
bookshop /'bʊkʃɒp/
boutique /bu:'tiːk/
branch /brʌntʃ/
butcher's /'bʊtʃəz/
chain of (cafés/supermarkets) /tʃeɪn ɒv ('kæfeɪz/ 'suːpə'mɑːkɪts)/
charity shop /'tʃærəti ʃɒp/
chemist's /'keməsts/
department store /dɪ'pɑːtmənt stɔː/
florist's /'flɒrɪsts/
greengrocer's /'ɡriːn,ɡrəʊsəz/
hardware store /'hɑːdweə stɔː/
jeweller's /'dʒuːləz/
junk shop /'dʒʌŋk ʃɒp/
newsagent's /'njuːz,eɪdʒənts/
pet shop /'pet ʃɒp/
shopping mall/centre /'ʃɒpɪŋ mæl/sentə/

Buying and selling

advertising /'ædvətaɪzɪŋ/
attract customers /ə'trækt 'kʌstəməz/
counter /'kaʊntə/
demand for /dɪ'mənd fɔː/
fill a gap in the market /fɪl ə ɡæp ɪn ðə 'mɑːkət/
launch/release /lɔːntʃ/rɪ'liːs/
new shopping experience /njuː 'ʃɒpɪŋ ɪk'spiəriəns/
niche market /'niːʃ 'mɑːkət/
on sale /ɒn 'seɪl/
promote a product /prə'məʊt ə 'prɒdʌkt/
range of products /reɪndʒ ɒv 'prɒdʌkts/
reputation /ˌrepjə'teɪʃən/
serve customers /sɜːv 'kʌstəməz/
specialise in sth /ˌspeʃəlaɪz ɪn/
stock /stɒk/
storekeeper /'stɔːkɪpə/
supply/monopolise the market /sə'plaɪ/mə'nɒpəlaɪz ðə 'mɑːkət/
trade /treɪd/
treat yourself to sth /'triːt jə'self tə 'sʌmθɪŋ/

Auctions and market places

antiques market /æn'tɪks 'mɑːkət/
auction house /'ɔːkʃən haʊs/
auctioneer /'ɔːkʃənɪə/
bid for sth /bɪd fɔː 'sʌmθɪŋ/
car boot sale /'kɑː buːt seɪl/
flea market /'fliː 'mɑːkət/
market stall /'mɑːkət stɔːl/
market stallholder /'mɑːkət 'stɔːl,həʊldə/
online auction /ɒnlaɪn 'ɔːkʃən/

Money and prices

affluent /'æfluənt/
borrow /'bɒrəʊ/
broke /brəʊk/
cash /kæʃ/
charge /tʃɑːdʒ/
cheat /tʃiːt/
cost an arm and a leg /kɒst ən ʌrm ənd ə 'leg/
cost of living /kɒst ɒv 'lɪvɪŋ/
cost/be worth a fortune /kɒst/bɪ wɜːθ ə 'fɔːtʃən/
credit card details /'kredɪt kɑːd,dɪ'teɪls/
cut/raise prices /kʌt/reɪz 'praɪsɪz/
discounted price /dɪs'kaʊntɪd 'praɪs/
earn a living /ɜːn ə 'lɪvɪŋ/
good/great value for money /ɡʊd/ɡreɪt væljuː fɔː 'mʌni/
have money to burn /hæv 'mʌni tə bɜːn/
hourly fee /'aʊəli 'fiː/
in debt /ɪn 'det/
make a fortune /meɪk ə 'fɔːtʃən/
make ends meet /meɪk endz 'miːt/
open a bank account /əʊpən ə 'bæŋk ə'kaʊnt/
overpriced /əʊvə'praɪst/
owe sb money /əʊ 'sʌmbədi 'mʌni/
pay through the nose /peɪ θruː ðə 'nəʊz/
pocket money /'pɒkət 'mʌni/
reasonably-priced /ˌriːzənəbli 'praɪst/
reduce the price /rɪ'djuːs ðə 'praɪs/