**Worksheet**:

Are these Present and Past tense pairs?

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| --- |
| **Modals with…** |
| **the Present** |  | **the Past** |
| **Can** |  | **Could** |
| **Will** |  | **Would** |
| **May** |  | **Might** |
| **Shall** |  | **Should** |
| **Must** |  | **Had to** |

**Answer**:

 In these examples they are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   |   |   |
| **Present** |  | **Past** |
| **She can come to the meeting.** | **Ability** | **She could come to the meeting.** |
| **He said that he will bring the drinks.** | **Intention** | **He said that he would bring the drinks.** |
| **He says he may be early.** | **Possibility** | **He said he might be early.** |
| **Shall I come back later?** | **Permission** | **Should I have come back later?** |
| **There's no food in the house.  We must go shopping.** | **Obligation** | **There was no food in the house so we had to go shopping.** |
|   |   |   |

 In these examples they are NOT:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   |   |   |   |   |
| **I can sleep there.** | **Ability** |  | **Permission** | **Could I sleep there?** |
| **I will tell you later.** | **Intention** |  | **Ability** | **I would never say something like that!** |
| **MayI smoke here?** | **Permission** |  | **Possibility** | **I might smoke here.** |
| **Shall we go to the park?** | **Suggestion** |  | **Warning** | **We shouldn't go into the park.** |
| **You must know this.** | **Obligation** |  | **Conclusion** | **You must have known this…** |

Sources

[1) http://www3.telus.net/linguisticsissues/Modals.htm#shall](http://www3.telus.net/linguisticsissues/Modals.htm)

2) Wikipedia

[3) http://www.sisma.org.il/summer/english\_learn/Modals/Forms/AllItems.aspx](http://www.sisma.org.il/summer/english_learn/Modals/Forms/AllItems.aspx)