

世纪应用英语 语法教程

Century Applied English

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第十一章

情态动词



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情态动词 (Model Verbs) 也可称为 “情态助动词 (Modal Auxiliaries) ” , 因为它和基本助动词 (be, do, have) 都属于助动词类。情态动词与其他动词连用表示说话人的语气, 也可表达建议、要求、可能和意愿等。主要的情态动词有: can (could), may (might), shall (should), will(would), must, ought to, need, dare 等。

情态动词	词义与用法
can	1. 能,会(体力、智力、技能)
could	2. 允许,许可(常用于口语) 3. 可能性(表示猜测,用于否定或疑问句中)
may	1. 可能(用于疑问句中表示请求)
might	2. 可能,或许(表示猜测) 3. 祝愿(表示祝愿或希望,多用在倒装句中)
must	1. 必须,应该(表示主观要求) 2. 肯定,想必(在肯定句中表推测)
have to	只好,不得不(表示客观的必须,有时态和人称的变化)

ought to	应当(表示一种义务或责任,比 must 语气弱,口语中多用 should)
shall	1. 将要,会(表将来,用于第一人称) 2. 好吗(用于第一、二人称,征求对方意见)
should	1. 应该,应当(表责任、义务) 2. 本该(用于虚拟语气中,含有责备的意味)
will	1. 意愿,决心(用于各种人称)
would	2. 表示请求、建议等,用在问句中, would 比 will 委婉客气。
dare	敢(常用于否定和疑问句中)
need	1. 需要 2. 必须(常用于否定和疑问句中)

一 情态动词的位置



情态动词在句中放在谓语动词之前。谓语动词前若有助动词，则放在助动词之前。疑问句中，情态动词一般放在主语之前。如：

I can see you. Come here. 我能看见你，过来吧。

He must have been away. 他一定走了。

What can I do for you? 我能为你做点什么？

How dare you treat us like that! 你怎敢那样对待我们！

1. 情态动词无人称或数的变化。
2. 情态动词后面跟的动词需用原形,否定式构成是在情态动词后面加 “not” 。
3. 个别情态动词有现在式和过去式两种形式。过去式用来表达更加客气、委婉的语气,时态性不强,可用于过去、现在或将来。如:

He could be here soon. 他很快就能来到这儿。

We can't carry the heavy box. 我们搬不动那个沉重的箱子。

He said you could / would / might leave early. 他说过你能/会/可以早走。

Would you please show me the way? 您给我指指路, 好吗?

He said I should see a doctor. 他说我应该去看医生。

现在式	过去式	否定式
may	might	may/might not
can	could	can/could not
must	—	must not
will	would	will/would not
shall	should	shall/should not
ought to	—	ought not to
need	—	need not
dare	—	dare not
—	used to	used not to/ didn't used to

不同的“肯定”程度可按下列由强到弱的层次排列：He is at home. (事实)
He must be at home. (非常可能) He could be at home. (很可能) He
ought to be at home. (很可能) He may be at home. (仅仅可能) He
might be at home. (或许) He isn't at home. (事实) He can't be at
home (. 接近肯定) He couldn't be at home. (不及 can't 肯定) He may
not be at home. (可能，但不肯定) He might not be at home. (不及may
肯定)。

1. “情态动词+ 不带to 的不定式”，表示现在或将来的状态

(1) may/can/must + 不带to 的不定式

I may/can/must go there now. 我也许/可能/应该现在去那儿。

I may/can/must go there tomorrow. 我也许/可能/应该明天去那儿。

另外，此结构也可用来表示“推测”，但这时情态动词后的动词仅限于静态动词。如：

He must be at home, since the light in his room is still on.

房里的灯还亮着，他一定在家。

He must know the answer. 他一定知道答案。

(2) ought to + 动词原形, 表示因责任或义务而应该做的事 (和should 差不多, 但语气比should 更强)。如:

You are his best friend. You ought to/should help him when he is in difficulty.

你是他最好的朋友, 应该在他有困难的时候帮他一把。

People should love their country. 人们应该热爱他们的国家。

2. “情态动词+ 行为动词进行式”, 这种形式往往可用来表示:

(1) 可能或推测。如:

Meg may be phoning her fiancé. 梅格可能在给她的未婚夫打电话。

You must be joking! 你准是在开玩笑。

He can't be leaving yet. 他现在还不会离开。

(2) 语气更委婉。如:

We must/may/should be leaving soon. 我们必须/也许/应该马上离开。

3. “情态动词+ 行为动词完成时”，表示过去的状态。用法如下：

(1) 非推测性用法：

①“could + 完成时”表示本来可以完成而未完成的动作。如：

A: We could have walked to the station; it was so near.

甲：我们本来可以走到车站去，路途很近。

B: Yes. A taxi wasn't at all necessary.

乙：是的，根本不必坐出租车。

②“ought to / should + 完成时”，表示“本来应该”，指本该做而实际未做的事，否定句则表示实际做了本不应该做的事。如：

The plant is dead; I should have given it more water.

这株植物死了，我本应该给它多浇点水。

We shouldn't have waited for her because she never comes.

我们本不该等她，因为她根本不会来。

She was so unhappy. You ought not to have hurt her feelings.

她是那么伤心，你不应该伤她的感情。

③“could/might + 完成时”用于肯定句时，可以表示本来可以做而实际未做的事，暗含一种责备，此时不可用may 替代。如：

The accident could have been prevented. 这事故本来是可以防止的。

He might have given you more help, even though he was very busy.
他本来是可以给你更多帮助的，尽管他很忙。

④ “needn' t + 完成时”，即need 用于否定句中，意为“本来不必”，指实际上做了本来不必做的事。如：

There were plenty of time. She needn't have hurried.

时间很充裕，她本不必匆忙。

(2) 推测性用法：对过去的事情进行推测

①“can/could + 完成时”表示对过去某事的推测，意为“那时（不）可能”。这样使用时，can 只用于疑问句和否定句中，不用于肯定句。如：

He can't/couldn't have forgotten your address so soon.

他不会这么快忘掉你的地址的。

Can she have lost the book? 她会把书弄丢吗？

He can't have gone to school — it's Saturday.

他不可能是去上学了，今天是星期六。

“The pilot or the manufacturer could have been at fault or a bomb could have been placed on board,” says Mr. Hellyer. “Whatever the cause, the black box can point the finger of blame.”

“出错的是飞行员或飞机制造商，也可能有人在飞机上放了炸弹，”赫利尔先生说。“不管什么原因，黑匣子总能找出罪魁祸首。”（不能说* The pilot or the manufacturer can have...）

②“must + 完成时”意为“准是已经”往往用于肯定句中，其否定形式是can't, 不是mustn't。如：

He must have left early.

他一定早早离开了。（否定式：He can't have left early. 他不可能早离开。）

③“may/might + 完成时”表示“可能已经”、“或许已经”，是对已经发生事情的不太肯定的推测，其中may一般不用于疑问句中。如：

You may (might) have read about it in the papers.

你可能已在报纸上看到关于它的报道。

He may (might) not have finished the work. 他可能还未完成工作。

④ 有时候，如果表示“可能”或“推论”的依据几乎可以肯定的话，也可以用will 和would。如：

That will be Mike. I can hear him at the door.

那一定是迈克。我听到他在门口的声音。

That will have been Mike. He said he'd be back at 7.

那一定是迈克。他说七点钟回来。

4. “情态动词+ 行为动词完成进行式”，表示推测或评论过去某动作是否正在进行或一直在进行。这样使用时，must 常用于肯定句，can 用于否定句或疑问句。
如：

He must have been working late. 他一定是工作到很晚。

He can't have been working late. 他不可能工作到很晚。

He cannot have been staying there. 他不可能一直待在那儿。

You ought to have been waiting her. 你应该一直等她。

He must have been working late. 他一定是工作到很晚。

(否定式: He can't have been working late. 他不可能工作到很晚。)

5. 某些情态动词的特殊用法

(1) 在回答must 引起的问题时, 如果是否定的答复, 不能用mustn't, 而要用needn't 或 don't have to, 因为mustn't 是“一定不要”、“一定不能”的意思。如:

“Must we do it now?” “No, you needn't.”

“我们必须现在做吗?” “不用, 没必要现在做。”

You must come to the classroom before eight. 你必须8 点之前来到教室。

You mustn't smoke here. 此地不准吸烟。

(2) May I/we...? 这一类疑问句的肯定回答为 “Yes, please.”或 “Certainly.”; 否定回答为

“Please don't.”或 “No, you mustn't.”。如:

“May I leave now?” “No, you mustn't. You haven't finished your homework yet.”

“我现在可以走了吗?” “不, 你不能。你还没完成作业呢。”

(3) “used to + v.”意为“过去常常”、“过去一直”。如：

He used to smoke. Now he doesn't. 他过去经常吸烟，可现在不了。

(4) need 既是情态动词也是实义动词。need 作情态动词时，后面跟不带to 的动词不定式，通常用在疑问句和否定句中。其疑问形式 “Need... do...?”表示询问是否有“必要”。否定形式 “needn't do”表示“不必”。如：

I don't think we need turn the light on. 我觉得我们没必要开灯。

Need you ride a bike to school? 你上学需要骑自行车吗？

作实义动词时表示“需要”，后接名词、动名词或带to 的不定式，单数第三人称一般现在时加-s，并有时态变化，借助于do、did 等助动词构成疑问句与否定句。如：

Does the telephone need repairing? 电话需要修理吗？

I'm going shopping because I need to buy some school supplies.
我要去商店买些学习用品。

He doesn't need to go there so early. 他不需要这么早去那里。

The question needs to be discussed. 问题还需要讨论。

would rather, would sooner, would (just) as soon, had rather, had better, had sooner, cannot but, may (just) as well 等可用作情态动词。如：

The soldier would sooner die than surrender. 士兵宁死不屈。

The brave soldier would as soon die as yield to such an enemy.

这个勇敢的士兵宁死也不屈服于这样一个敌人。

I'd rather walk than take a bus. 我宁愿走路也不愿乘公交车。

If you don't like to swim, you may just as well stay at home.

如果你不喜欢游泳，可以待在家里。

【注】

这些短语后一般直接跟动词原形：would (had) rather, would (had) sooner, would (just) as soon 后可跟that 引导的从句，that 常省去，从句要用虚拟语气。对现在和将来的假设用过去时，对过去的假设用过去完成时。如：

I would rather you came on Sunday. 我宁愿你周日来。

I would sooner you hadn't asked me to speak yesterday. 我宁愿你昨天没有让我发言。

1. 仔细阅读题干，分析句子结构，判断句中所缺项目，确定应选语法结构类型。

2. 根据对题干内容的理解以及句中所缺语法类型，在四个选项中选出一项自己认为正确的答案。

3. 如果所选项目属于情态动词型，要认真检查所选情态动词的时态、语态以及词义是否与题干内容相符。

4. 最后再全面检查一遍，答案放入题干后，全句是否在句意、语法结构及词的搭配方面完美无缺。

现以实考题为例：

(1) He told me that I _____ be present at the ceremony.

A. Could B. would C. should D. might

正确答案为C。参考译文：他对我说，我应该出席典礼。

(2) Peter _____ the driver's test, but he wasn't calm enough in the last ten minutes.

- A. might have passed C. will have passed
B. must have passed D. ought to have passed

正确答案为D。

参考译文：彼得本应该通过驾驶员考试，但他最后10分钟沉不住气了。

解题技巧：本题测试情态动词后加行为动词完成时的用法。四个选项都有情态动词，其中表示“本应该”之意的选项是D。“ought to have passed”含义是“本应该通过而实际没有”。所以D是正确答案。

(3) These pills should (keep) _____ out of the reach of children.

正确答案为be kept.

参考译文：这些药丸应置于孩子够不到的地方。

解题技巧：本题测试情态动词和被动语态的用法。由于句子的主语是物，故动词要用被动语态；而should后面要用动词原形，故答案是be kept.

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

- A** 1. You _____ all those clothes! We have a washing machine to do that sort of thing.
A. needn't have washed B. shouldn't have washed
C. must not have washed D. cannot have washed
- C** 2. John's score on the test is the highest in the class; he _____ last night.
A. should study B. should have studied
C. must have studied D. must have to study
- A** 3. The room is in a terrible mess; it _____ cleaned.
A. can't have been B. shouldn't have been
C. mustn't have been D. wouldn't have been
- C** 4. Nobody knows how people first came to these islands. They _____ from South America on rafts.
A. must have sailed B. can sail
C. might have sailed D. should have sailed

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

- B** 5. Mary was not in her bedroom yesterday afternoon. She _____ in her classroom.
A. should have been B. must have been
C. must be D. should be
- C** 6. Bob said he was going to join our club but he didn't. He _____ his mind.
A. can't have changed B. wouldn't have changed
C. must have changed D. shouldn't have changed
- D** 7. You _____ to the town to see the film yesterday. It will be on TV tonight.
A. needn't go B. had better not go
C. should not go D. needn't have gone
- D** 8. We _____ the letter yesterday, but it didn't arrive.
A. must receive B. ought to receive
C. must have received D. ought to have received

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

B

9. With all the work on hand, he _____ to the cinema last night.

- A. mustn't go B. shouldn't have gone
C. could not go D. oughtn't have gone

D

10. Linda was late for class again. She _____ earlier.

- A. should get up B. must get up
C. need to get up D. should have got up

D

11. I am feeling sick. I _____ so much chocolate.

- A. needn't have eaten B. couldn't have eaten
C. mustn't have eaten D. shouldn't have eaten

C

12. I didn't send out my application form last week, but I _____.

- A. had B. would do C. should have D. might have to

D

13. Walking alone in the deserted village, John was scared. He thought he _____ Tom to go with him.

- A. might have asked B. should asked
C. must have asked D. should have asked

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

B

14. When I got to the cinema, the film had already started; I _____ there earlier.

A. ought to get B. ought to have got C. must have got D. must get

B

15. The road was muddy. It _____ last night.

A. must rained B. must have rained
C. must be rained D. could have rained

B

16. She can speak quite fluent English. She _____ in the U.S.A. for some time.

A. must been B. must have been C. should have been D. may be

B

17. You should bear in mind that he is not so strong as he _____.

A. was used to be B. used to be C. was used to D. use to

C

18. "We didn't see him at the exhibition yesterday." "He _____ it."

A. mustn't visit B. can't have visited
C. should have gone to visit D. may see

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

- C** 19. Mary _____ my letter, otherwise she would have replied before now.
A. should have received B. has received
C. couldn't have received D. ought to have received
- A** 20. I _____ you a valuable present for your birthday, but I was short of money.
A. would have liked to give B. liked to give
C. have liked to give D. would like to give
- A** 21. "Where _____ my umbrella?" "Somebody _____ it away by mistake."
A. is, must have taken B. is, must take
C. have been, must take D. is, takes
- C** 22. What _____ would happen if the director knew you felt that way?
A. will you suppose B. you suppose
C. do you suppose D. you would suppose

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

A 23. Two eyes _____ see more than one.

A. can B. may C. will D. should

C 24. _____ you continue in your efforts and achieve newer and greater successes?

A. Would B. Will C. May D. Should

A 25. We ought to help each other in our work, _____?

A. oughtn't we B. should we
C. shouldn't we D. ought to we

D 26. Tom _____ better than to ask Dick for help.

A. shall know B. shouldn't know
C. has known D. should have known

D 27. You _____ your tooth pulled out before it rot completely.

A. had better got B. had to get better
C. had better to get D. had better get

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

D

28. When we got to the cinema, the film hasn't started yet, so we

_____.

- A. needn't hurry B. didn't need hurry
C. needn't to hurry D. needn't have hurried

A

29. It was really very dangerous; you _____ him seriously.

- A. might have injured B. could injure
C. should have injured D. must injure

C

30. As he had heart attack, he was told that he _____ continue the work.

- A. needn't B. may not C. mustn't D. can't

B

31. An Englishman who _____ not speak Italian was once traveling in Italy.

- A. must B. could C. may D. might

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

B

32. I _____ like to make a suggestion.

A. could B. would C. must D. might

C

33. I know things are hard with you, but you _____ try to get over the difficulties.

A. can B. may C. must D. ought

A

34. I can't find the recorder in the room. It _____ by somebody.

A. may have been taken away B. may leave

C. may take away D. must have taken away

D

35. He _____ the 9:20 train because he didn't leave home till 9:25.

A. can reach B. could catch

C. may not catch D. couldn't have caught

THANK YOU



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