

LO: to recognise modal verbs and modal adverbs

A modal verb is a helper verb that expresses, possibility, necessity and obligation. Modal adverbs are often added to modal verbs to add to their meaning.

In the first sentence underline the MODAL VERB. Remember, modal verbs are made 'negative' by adding the word 'not'.

In a different colour, in the second sentence underline the MODAL ADVERB.

1. You can't have said that to her!
2. Surely you can't have said that to her!

1. I might tell you all about it.
2. I might just tell you all about it.

1. You shouldn't have gone to so much trouble.
2. You really shouldn't have gone to so much trouble.

1. I will call you tomorrow.
2. I will definitely call you tomorrow.

1. You can't be serious!
2. You can't possibly be serious.

1. She must have forgotten it.
2. She obviously must have forgotten it.

1. He could help us a lot.
2. He could probably help us a lot.

1. I can't remember when I first met her.
2. I can't exactly remember when I first met her.

1. You should take up that course.
2. You should absolutely take up that course.

Now write some sentences of your own in the same style as those above.

1. _____

2. _____

1. _____

2. _____

1. _____

2. _____

ANSWERS

Modal adverbs in bold. *Modal verbs in red.*

Surely you *can't* have said that to her!

I *might* **just** tell you all about it.

I *could* **easily** have been hurt.

You **really** *shouldn't* have gone to so much trouble.

I *will* **definitely** call you tomorrow.

You *can't* **possibly** be serious.

She **obviously** *must* have forgotten it.

He *could* **probably** help us a lot.

I *can't* **exactly** remember when I first met her.

You *should* **absolutely** take up that course.