

ENGLISH
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For Today

Book Three: THE WAY WE LIVE

The National Council of Teachers of English

Second Edition

Teacher's Manual
ENGLISH FOR TODAY

Second Edition

Book Three: THE WAY WE LIVE

**THE NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF TEACHERS OF ENGLISH**

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ENGLISH FOR TODAY

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Review of Book Two

Modal Auxiliaries



Arriving in New York

Three college students from Asia have just arrived at the Kennedy International Airport in New York City. They are going to attend graduate school in one of the large universities in the New York area. The students have come two weeks early in order to get acquainted with New York City and to find a place to live. New York isn't an easy place to get around in, even for Americans. They will be lucky if they get settled in a week.

R1 Practice the following dialogue.



When they were waiting for their baggage, the students talked to a passenger from their plane. He was a New Yorker. He asked them if they needed any help.

Student: Where can we get a taxi?

Passenger: Right outside. But most people don't take taxis. They take a bus to the terminal. It's a lot cheaper.

Student: Where can we get a bus?

Passenger: You'll find one right outside, next to the taxis.

Student: How long will it take to get to New York?

Passenger: If the traffic isn't too heavy, you'll be at the terminal in about an hour.

Student: We'll be staying at the Midtown Hotel. Can we walk there from the terminal, or should we take a taxi?

Passenger: You'll have to take a taxi. The hotel is 20 blocks from the terminal, and you can't carry all those suitcases 20 blocks.

can and will

R2 Write out the following paragraph, filling in the blanks with *can* or *will*.

The students _____ take a taxi to town, or they _____ take a bus. If they take a taxi, it _____ be more expensive. If they take a bus, it _____ be cheaper. It _____ take them about an hour to get to the terminal. If the traffic is heavy, it _____ take longer. The students _____ be staying at the Midtown Hotel. They _____'t walk there from the terminal. It's too far away. They _____'t carry their suitcases for 20 blocks.

could and would

R3 Tell what happened when the students arrived at the airport. Use *could* and *would*.

The students had a choice. They _____ take a taxi, or they _____ take a bus. They found out that a taxi _____ be too expensive. They found out that a bus _____ be cheaper. It _____ be less expensive than a taxi. A taxi _____ be more expensive than a bus. They found out that it _____ take about an hour to get to the terminal. When they asked about their hotel, they learned that it was 20 blocks from the terminal. They _____n't walk from the terminal to the hotel. They _____n't carry their suitcases 20 blocks. They _____ have to take a taxi.

could and would in conditional clauses

R4 Practice the following dialogue.

S1: Why can't we take a taxi?

S2: We could. But if we took a taxi, it would cost us more than ten dollars. And we'd have to tip the taxi driver, too.

S1: How much would we save if we took a bus?

S2: Two or three dollars, at least.

R5 Write out the following sentences. Use the past tense in the *if* clause and use *could* or *would* in the main clauses.

1. If they _____ (take) a taxi, it _____ (could/would) cost them more than ten dollars.
2. If they _____ (take) a taxi, they _____ (could/would) have to tip the taxi driver.
3. If they _____ (want) to spend the money, they _____ (could/would) take a taxi.
4. They _____ (could/would) take a taxi if they _____ (want) to.
5. If they _____ (take) a bus, they _____ (could/would) save two or three dollars.
6. If they _____ (save) the money, they _____ (could/would) spend it on something else.

R6 Complete the following sentences, using your own suggestions. If they saved their money, what could they spend it on?

1. If they saved their money, they could spend it on _____.
2. If they saved their money, they could also spend it on _____.

would like to and would rather

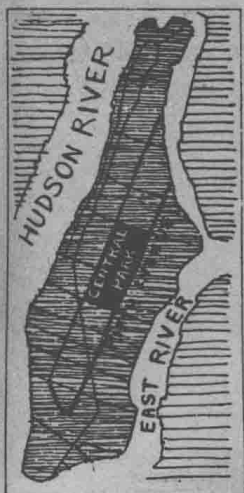
R7 Practice the following dialogue.



- S1: What are we going to do this afternoon?
S2: I'd like to take a ride on the subway.
S3: I'd rather go on a boat ride around the island of Manhattan. What would *you* like to do?
S1: I'm not sure. I'd like to get settled first. Then I'd like to have some lunch.
S2: That's one thing we'd all like to do.

R8 Answer the following questions. Use complete statements.

1. Would S2 like to take a ride on the subway or go on a boat ride?
He'd like to _____.
2. Would S3 rather go on a boat ride or take a ride on the subway?
He'd rather _____.
3. What would S1 like to do first?
He'd _____.
4. What would S1 like to do next?
He'd _____.
5. What would they all like to do?
They'd all _____.



R9 If you were in New York for the first time, what would you like to do?

If I were in New York for the first time, I would like to _____.

I would like to see _____.

I would like to take _____.

If you were in New York for the first time, what would you rather do?

Ride on the subway or ride in a bus?

I'd rather _____.

Go to a restaurant or go to a play?

I'd _____.

Go to a museum or go to the zoo?

I'd _____.

Visit the Empire State Building or the United Nations?

I'd _____.

had better and have to

R10 Practice the following dialogue.

S1: I haven't even unpacked yet. I have to change my shirt.

S2: I'd like to take a shower first. I'm hot and tired.

S3: I have to cash a check and get my hair cut.

S1: Maybe we'd better do the things we *have to* do today and do the things we'd *like* to do tomorrow.

S2: I guess you're right.

R11 Help S1 get organized. Say what he has to do and what he'd better do. Put the items in order.

change his shirt

cash a check

unpack

take a shower

get his hair cut

get something to eat

1. He has to _____. He'd better do that first.
2. He has to _____. He'd _____ next.
3. He has to _____. He'd _____ next.
4. He has to _____. He'd _____ next.
5. He has to _____. He'd _____ next.
6. He has to _____. He'd _____ next.

should, shouldn't, might, and had better



R12 In the afternoon, S1 began to sneeze. He knew that he was catching a cold. This is what he said to himself:

Maybe I should . . . stay in tonight.
go to bed early.
get some sleep.
take some aspirin.
gargle.

I really shouldn't . . . go out tonight.
stay up late.
work too hard.



Use the cues to write sentences with *should* and *shouldn't*.

stay in tonight

1. Maybe he should _____.

get some sleep

2. Maybe he _____.

stay up late

3. _____.

gargle

4. _____.

go out tonight

5. _____.

take some aspirin

6. _____.

go to bed early

7. _____.

Match the statements in column 1 with the statements in column 2.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. He'd better go to bed early. | a. His cold might get worse. |
| 2. He'd better not go out tonight. | b. He might feel better in the morning. |
| 3. He'd better take some aspirin. | c. It might help his throat. |
| 4. He'd better gargle. | d. It might help his headache. |

GRAMMATICAL COMMENTS

This review section has illustrated some of the ways that the modal auxiliaries can add meaning to a sentence.

1. The exercises relate *can* to *could* and *will* to *would*. These four modals are probably the most frequently used ones.

They have a choice: They can take a taxi or a bus.

They had a choice: They could take a taxi or a bus.

They will have to take a taxi to the hotel.

They knew they would have to take a taxi to the hotel.

2. The expression *would like* expresses a preference or a desire. It is roughly equivalent to *want*.

I want to take a boat ride.

I'd like to take a boat ride.

3. The expression *would rather* introduces a choice:

What would you rather do? Take a ride on the subway or go on a boat ride around the island of Manhattan?

4. The expression *had better* and the modal *should* are both used in giving advice to others or to oneself. *Should* is somewhat stronger than *had better*, at least in certain situations.

He'd better unpack first.

Maybe I should stay in tonight.

Maybe I shouldn't go out.

5. The modal *might* is used to express possible results or consequences of an action.

He'd better not go out tonight. His cold might get worse.

6. There are nine single-word modals:

can	will	shall	may	must
could	would	should	might	

The review section omits *shall*, which is of low frequency in American English. Its two commonest occurrences are in first-person questions:

Shall I open a window?

Shall we go to the movies?

May, in some situations, is roughly equivalent to *might*.

My cold may/might get worse.

One of the commonest meanings of *must* is more frequently expressed in speech by *have to*:

I have to/must change my shirt.

Present Perfect Construction

R13 Read the following story.



Getting Settled in New York

The three students from Asia have been in New York for two weeks now. Monday they're going to start school. They've been looking for an apartment near their college, and they have finally found one. The Foreign Student Adviser at the college gave them a list of apartments that were available, and he gave them the following list of things they would probably have to do:

Pay two months' rent in advance.

Deposit their money in a bank.

Open a checking account.

Establish credit at the bank.

Shop for sheets and towels.

Shop for cooking utensils.

Call the electric company to start the electric service.

Call the gas company to start the gas service.

Call the telephone company and get the telephone installed.

This is what they have done up to now:

They have found an apartment.

They have paid two months' rent in advance.

They have moved into the apartment.

They have called the electric company.

They have called the gas company.

They have bought sheets and towels.

This is what they haven't done yet:

They haven't called the telephone company yet.

They haven't bought all their cooking utensils yet.

They haven't gone to the bank yet.

They haven't deposited their money yet.

They haven't opened a checking account yet.

They haven't established credit yet.

R14 Use the cues to make statements with *already* and *yet*.
Follow the model below.

rent an apartment

They've already rented an apartment.

call the telephone company

They haven't called the telephone company yet.

pay two months' rent

1. They've already paid two months' rent.

go to the bank

2. They haven't gone to the bank yet.

move into the apartment

3. They've already _____.

call the electric company

4. They've _____.

open a checking account

5. They _____ yet.

establish credit

6. They _____.

call the gas company

7. They _____.

buy sheets and towels

8. They _____.

buy cooking utensils

9. They _____.

deposit their money

10. They _____.

already and yet

R15 Use the cues to ask questions with *already* and *yet*. Follow the model below the illustration. Supply the correct short answers.



rent an apartment

Have they already rented an apartment? Yes, they have.

call the telephone company

Have they called the telephone company yet? No, they haven't.

ALREADY

pay two months' rent

1. Have they _____ paid two months' rent?
_____, they _____.

go to the bank

2. Have _____?
_____, _____.

move into the apartment

3. Have _____?
_____, _____.

call the electric company

4. Have _____?
_____, _____.

establish credit

5. Have _____?
_____, _____.

call the gas company

6. Have _____?
_____, _____.

buy sheets and towels

7. Have _____?
_____, _____.

open a checking account

8. Have _____?
_____, _____.

buy cooking utensils

9. Have _____?
_____, _____.

call the telephone company

10. Have _____?
_____, _____.

deposit their money

11. Have _____?
_____, _____.

YET

rent an apartment

1. Have they rented an apartment yet?
Yes, they have.

pay two months' rent

2. Have they paid two months' rent _____?
_____, they _____.

go to the bank

3. Have _____?
_____, _____.

move into the apartment

4. Have _____?
_____, _____.

call the electric company

5. Have _____?
_____, _____.