



# Paco visits Canada and the USA: In Toronto



By Matthew Anderson. Creative Commons.





## Modal verbs: form

#### Paco might experience the Niagara Falls

# can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would, ought to

- There is no 's' in the third person singular.
- There is no don't/doesn't in the negative.
- There is no do/does in the question.
- They do not normally have past forms.
- They do not have infinitives or –ing forms.
- They are followed by an infitive without to (except 'ought to')





# Deduction and possibility

#### It must be love

#### **Deduction**

It **must** be love. It **can't** be love.

#### **Possibility**

Paco **could** visit Yorkville.

He **may** go for a walk around Toronto's Queen's Quay.

He might experience the Niagara Falls.





# Obligation, advice, prohibition, lack of obligation

#### You should visit the CN Tower

OBLIGATIO N	ADVICE	PROHIBITION	LACK OF OBLIGATIO N
Must	Should	Mustn't	Don't/
Have to	Ought to		doesn't have to





# Ability, permission and request

# Can I go on the Maid of the Mist?

ABILITY	PERMISSION AND REQUEST	
can	can	
could	could	
(be able to)	may	
	(be allowed to)	





# **Summary**

### Can you complete the gaps?

DEDUCTION	POSSIBILITY	OBLIGATION	ADVICE
Must	Could	Must	Should
Can't	May	Have to	Ought to
	Might		
	Can		
PROHIBITION	LACK OF OBLIGATION	ABILITY	PERMISSIO N AND REQUEST
Mustn't	Don't/Doesn't	Can	Can
	have to	Could	Could
			May