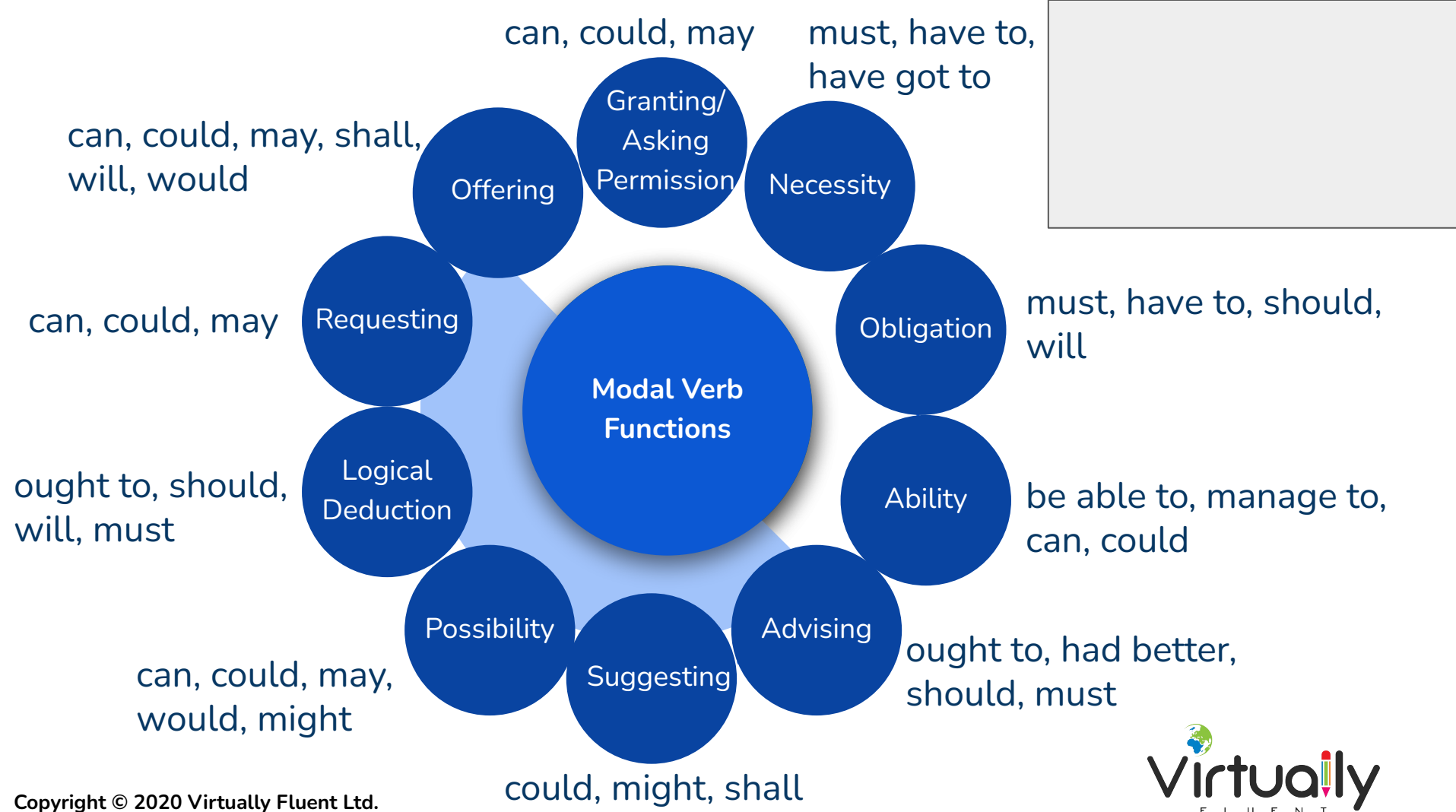




## Past Modals



subject

modal

have

past participle

*She must have gone to the shops*

*He should have seen her there*

- ✎ Must have
- ✎ Can't have
- ✎ Should have / shouldn't have
- ✎ Ought to have / ought not to have
- ✎ Might have / mightn't have
- ✎ May have/ may not have
- ✎ Could have / couldn't have
- ✎ Would have /wouldn't have

must have

Very certain about a past event

*She must have gone to the shops*

can't have

A past event is impossible

*You can't have left your keys at home because I saw them in the car.*

should have

Strongly predict something has happened

*The plane should have landed at  
4pm.*

shouldn't have

Strongly predict something has not  
happened

*The plane shouldn't have landed yet.*



should have

Good idea to do in the past but you  
didn't do it

*I should have studied more English  
at school.*

ought to have

Good idea to do in the past but you  
didn't do it

*I ought to have studied more English  
at school.*

shouldn't have

You did something in the past but it  
was a bad idea

*I shouldn't have left you*

ought not to have

You did something in the past but it  
was a bad idea

*I ought not to have left you*

might have

50% certain about a past event

*I have a feeling I might have left the  
door unlocked.*

mightn't have

50% certain about a past event

*He mightn't have locked the door.*

may have

50% certain about a past event

*I have a feeling I may have left the  
door unlocked.*

may not have

50% certain about a past event

*He may not have locked the door*



could have

50% certain about a past event

*I have a feeling I could have left the  
door unlocked.*

couldn't have

Almost certain about a past event

*I couldn't have arrived any earlier  
because I was stuck in traffic*

could have

Something was possible but you  
didn't do it

*I could have taken my exam in  
summer but I didn't feel prepared.*

couldn't have

Something was impossible

*I couldn't have entered the exam  
because the deadline had passed.*

would have

(conditional)  
Imaginary situation

*I would have arrived earlier if I could.*

<b>Must have</b>	Certain of past event	She must have gone to the shops
<b>Can't have</b> <b>Couldn't have</b>	Impossible past event	You can't have left your keys
<b>Should have</b>	Strong past prediction Good idea you didn't do	The plane should have landed I should have studied harder
<b>Shouldn't have</b>	Strong past prediction Bad idea you did	The plane shouldn't have landed yet I shouldn't have left you
<b>Ought to have</b>	Good idea you didn't do	I ought to have studied harder
<b>Ought not to have</b>	Bad idea you did	I ought not to have left you
<b>Might have</b> <b>Mightn't have</b> <b>May have</b> <b>May not have</b> <b>Could have</b>	50% certain of past event	I might have left the door unlocked
<b>Could have</b>	Past possibility you didn't do	I could have taken my exam
<b>Would have</b>	Imaginary situation	I would have earlier if I could