

Modal Signal Sort

Sort sentences by the condition their modal words show.

4.LU.1.D "Use modal words (e.g., can, may, must) to convey various conditions when speaking and writing."

NAME _____

DATE _____

REQUIRED ACTION

Must tells about a rule or an action that is needed.

You must buckle your seat belt before the bus moves.

ALLOWED CHOICE

May tells what is allowed. It is a choice, not a rule.

You may pick a poem to share at home.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle the category for each sentence, then for Part 2, choose two numbered items and explain which modal word shows the category and why.

1. You must return library books by Friday.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

2. All players must wear shin guards.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

3. You may use colored pencils for the poster.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

4. You must write your name at the top.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

5. You may sit with a partner during reading.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

6. You may bring a water bottle on the hike.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

7. You must turn off tablets before lunch.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

8. You must wash your hands before snack.

REQUIRED

CHOICE

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

For Part 3, write one new REQUIRED sentence and one new CHOICE sentence using modal words.

REQUIRED _____

CHOICE _____

CHALLENGE

Write two sentences about a school event. In one sentence, use **must** to show a requirement. In the other, use **may** to show an allowed choice.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	You must return library books by Friday.	REQUIRED	Must shows that returning the books is required.
2	All players must wear shin guards.	REQUIRED	Must shows a required safety rule.
3	You may use colored pencils for the poster.	CHOICE	May shows that using colored pencils is allowed.
4	You must write your name at the top.	REQUIRED	Must shows a required action.
5	You may sit with a partner during reading.	CHOICE	May shows an allowed choice.
6	You may bring a water bottle on the hike.	CHOICE	May shows that bringing a water bottle is allowed.
7	You must turn off tablets before lunch.	REQUIRED	Must shows a required rule.
8	You must wash your hands before snack.	REQUIRED	Must shows a required action.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **REQUIRED:** You must pack your folder before leaving school.
- **CHOICE:** You may read quietly after your work is done.

Challenge: Students must show a ticket at the science fair. Students may visit the robot table at the science fair.

Answers: 1 REQUIRED, 2 REQUIRED, 3 CHOICE, 4 REQUIRED, 5 CHOICE, 6 CHOICE, 7 REQUIRED, 8 REQUIRED.

Accept Part 2 explanations that correctly identify must as required and may as allowed.