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	ALLOWED CHOICE
Must tells about a rule or an action that is needed.	May tells what is allowed. It is a choice, not a rule.
You must buckle your seat belt before the bus moves.	You may pick a poem to share at home.

1 SORT

8 items

Sort sentences by the condition their modal words show.

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.

ANSWER KEY

Modal Signal Sort

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.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept Part 2 explanations that correctly identify must as required and may as allowed.