

Practice Exercises – Moda I Verbs (Ability / Possibility / Permission)

Review the *Modal Verbs used to express Ability, Possibility, Permission* before doing the exercises. Choose the answer that is grammatically correct in the context of the sentence. There is only one correct answer.

Practice Exercises – Moda I Verbs (Ability / Possibility / Permission):

1. My daughter _____ to speak three languages at the age of five.
a. could
b. can
c. was able
d. may
2. There's a small chance that I _____ get a pay raise at the end of the year.
a. might
b. be able to
c. ought
d. have
3. Alice: " _____ your sister dance the tango?" Sue: "Not very well."
a. Is able
b. May
c. Can
d. Has
4. I _____ stay up late every night when I was in high school.
a. could
b. may
c. can
d. will
5. John _____ play golf when he was younger, but now he can.
a. can't
b. couldn't
c. wasn't able
d. doesn't
6. How many times _____ the U.S. President be elected?
a. is allowed
b. has
c. is able
d. can
7. After a few more lessons, Bill will _____ swim like a fish.
a. can
b. be able to
c. could
d. might
8. Ann: " _____ there be enough time to do some last-minute shopping before our flight?" Al: "No, not enough."
a. Is
b. Must
c. Won't
d. Wasn't
9. Nowadays people _____ smoke in public places any more. It's against the law.
a. can't
b. couldn't
c. don't let
d. doesn't

10. Does the weather forecast say that it _____ snow tonight?

- a. may
- b. has
- c. able to
- d. is

11. At present, I _____ roller skate as well as my sister, but I'm going to keep practicing.

- a. won't
- b. can't
- c. 'm not able
- d. don't know

12. My daughter _____ wear jeans to school when she was fifteen. They weren't allowed.

- a. can't
- b. couldn't
- c. won't
- d. may not

13. The dentist _____ see you today. He has too many appointments.

- a. can't
- b. mustn't
- c. isn't allowed
- d. isn't able

14. I _____ go to the gym yesterday because I had to work overtime.

- a. might not
- b. can't
- c. couldn't
- d. may not

15. Tourists can visit Alcatraz Island in the San Francisco Bay but they _____ to sleep there.

- a. may not
- b. mustn't
- c. aren't allowed
- d. can't

16. You _____ to get your money back, if you return your ticket no later than a week before your flight.

- a. will
- b. can
- c. could
- d. 'll be able

17. Nobody _____ travel to India without a passport.

- a. is allowed
- b. can
- c. may not
- d. isn't able to

18. I _____ play the piano when I was seven.

- a. can
- b. could
- c. was able
- d. will

19. _____ I please use your computer while you're out to lunch?

- a. Would
- b. Should
- c. May
- d. Will

20. I _____ go out to dinner with you tonight because I have to get up early tomorrow.

- a. not able to
- b. don't have
- c. can't
- d. haven't

21. John still _____ ski well, although he's been skiing for many years.

- a. doesn't know
- b. not able to
- c. can't
- d. don't

22. The boys _____ go wherever they liked while they were on vacation last summer.

- a. may
- b. might
- c. could
- d. can

23. After studying English for many years, Cecilia will _____ speak it quite well.

- a. can
- b. be able to
- c. could
- d. may

24. This weekend I _____ go to Rome to visit my sister. I haven't decided yet, though.

- a. can
- b. might
- c. am able
- d. will

25. Jane _____ have a dog because animals aren't allowed in her apartment building.

- a. can't
- b. not permitted to
- c. doesn't let
- d. not allowed

26. By this time next year, I'll _____ read and write Chinese much better.

- a. can
- b. be able to
- c. could
- d. should

27. My mother has such a good memory; she _____ remember everything.

- a. might
- b. can
- c. able to
- d. ought

28. It _____ rain tomorrow, according to the weather forecast.

- a. might
- b. ought
- c. need
- d. doesn't

29. You _____ put your car in our garage for the night, if you want to.

- a. might
- b. can
- c. able to
- d. allowed to

30. My sister still _____ ride a bike when she was ten.
a. can't
b. wasn't able
c. couldn't
d. may not
31. If it doesn't rain soon, we _____ have to use less water.
a. may
b. can
c. must
d. ought
32. I _____ wear makeup when I was sixteen.
a. can't
b. wasn't allowed
c. couldn't
d. may not
33. _____ you able to bake a cake?
a. Do
b. Could
c. Are
d. Can
34. After twenty years of marriage, Martha still _____ to cook well.
a. can't
b. couldn't
c. isn't able
d. might not
35. I _____ to give you Ms. Brown's e-mail address without her permission.
a. don't
b. can't
c. mustn't
d. 'm not allowed
36. My grandmother _____ leave the hospital tomorrow; the doctor said so.
a. is able
b. can
c. let
d. is allowed
37. Dogs that do not receive enough exercise _____ develop behavioral problems.
a. can
b. should
c. are able
d. have
38. You _____ be able to succeed in life if you aren't able to face challenges.
a. won't
b. couldn't
c. aren't
d. can't