

# Modals

Can/Could

Be able to

May/Might

# Ability

**Can**

**Could**

**Be able to**

I **can** run very fast

I **could** run faster when I wasn't so tired

I **was able to** outrun my P.E. teacher once

I **will be able to** do it again if I start practicing

# Probability

**Can**

**Could**

**May**

**Might**

**It can happen**

**It couldn't happen even if we all wanted**

**He may be at home now**

**He might be at home, but I'm not sure**

# Permission

**Can**

**Could**

**May**

**Might (SUPER POLITE)**

Can you help me with this?

Could I borrow your book?

May I borrow your book?

I wonder if I might borrow your book

**Can you .... ?**

**May I..... ?**

# Requests and offers

- Can I carry your bag? (**Not May!**)
  - How can I help you?
- We could go home if you're tired