

IELTS Grammar



■ Cadence

Practice

IELTS Writing Task 1:

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The table below shows information and predictions regarding the change in percentage of the population aged 65 and above in three countries.

Country	1988	2000	2030
Canada	16.32	20.67	26.35
Germany	20.45	25.32	30.42
UK	14.23	14.89	20.35

IELTS Liz

The table gives information about the proportion of the population aged 65 years and over in 3 countries (Canada, Germany and the UK) in 1988, 2000 and an estimated percentage for 2030.

Overall, the population of elderly people in all three countries over the period given. The highest percentage of older people in Germany, which continue to remain the highest for the entire period, while the lowest proportion can be seen in the UK.

Between 1988 and 2000, the aging population of Canada and Germany by around 5% to 20.67% and 25.32% respectively. The UK, on the other hand, relatively little change in the proportion of its population who were 65 years old and above, remaining at just under 15% in both years.

By 2030, it is expected that the population of people aged 65 and above increase by approximately 5.5% in all three countries. The percentage is predicted to reach 30.42% in Germany, 26.35% in Canada and 20.35% in the UK.

Grammar



谓语动词的变化有哪些?

三态一否=时态+情态+语态+否定

什么是情态?

表达不同的情绪态度可能性

怎么表达情态?

情态动词+动词原形

Ability

Present	<i>can, can't, be able to, manage to</i>
Past	<i>could, couldn't, be able to, manage to</i>
Perfect	<i>be able to, manage to</i>
Future	<i>be able to, manage to</i>

Compare

Jack was an excellent tennis player when he was younger. He could beat anybody.

Jack and Andy played a match yesterday. Andy played well, but Jack managed to beat him.

表示能力的词

- general ability (一般能力) -- **can/could** (一种持续的能力, 不是一次性的动作)

有时候**could**是**can**的过去式, 同样用于一般能力的情况

He could speak French.

- ability on one specific occasion in the past (在某一次具体情况下做成了某事) -- **was/were (not) able to** 或者 **couldn't**, 不能用**could**

She was able to escape. (她成功逃脱了。)

She could escape. (语义不完整, 她有能逃, 但不知道她逃没逃)

- 以及**managed to do (something is difficult to achieve)**

I didn't know where Max was, but I managed to find him in the end.

Ability

Present	<i>can, can't, be able to, manage to</i>	<i>I can't swim.</i>
Past	<i>could, couldn't, be able to, manage to</i>	<i>They weren't able to find out his name.</i>
Perfect	<i>be able to, manage to</i>	<i>Have you managed to finish the report yet?</i>
Future	<i>be able to, manage to</i>	<i>I won't be able to meet you later.</i>

*对于完成时和将来时的表达，会使用manage to 和 be able to

Apparently he's been able to find his family.

Within a year he'll probably be able to remember quite a lot. (not Within a year he can probably remember quite a lot.)

can的其他用法

- 表示有时候 (=sometimes)

People can do funny things when they've experienced something terrible.

- 获得或者给与许可

Can I borrow the car this afternoon?

You can borrow it, but I need it later this evening.

Ability

Present	<i>can, can't, be able to, manage to</i>	<i>I can't swim.</i>
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could的其他用法(除了表达can的过去)

- 现在/将来某个行为的可能性 (常用于提出建议)

What shall we do tonight? We could go to the cinema.

We can go to the cinema. 同样可行, 但是could的确定性较弱

- 非真实的行动

I'm so tired, I could sleep for a week.

- 现在或者将来可能发生的事

I don't know what time Lisa is coming. She could get here at any time.

1 He _____ play the piano when he was only five.

A can

☒ B could

C was able to

2 The door was stuck, but I finally _____ open it.

A could

B was able to

☒ C managed to

3 He was so tired that he _____ sleep for a week.

☒ A could

B can

C was able to

People _____ do strange things when they are scared.

A could

☒ B can

C are able to

5 The weather is nice now, but it _____ change later.

A can

B could

☒ C both a & b

Bonus

She _____ (swim) very well since she was a child.

has been able to swim

Possibility

very likely	<i>must</i>
possible	<i>might, may, could, may not, might not</i>
very unlikely	<i>can't, couldn't</i>

could/may/might表达可能性

He *may/might/could* remember some things already.

couldn't(could not) = can't(cannot) 常用于讲述过去不可能的事情

Sarah *couldn't* have received my message. Otherwise she would have replied.

may/might not 的可能性中等偏低, 表述可能不

Why hasn't Sarah replied to my message? I suppose she *might not* have received it.

may be vs. maybe

It *may be* true. (may+verb)

Is it true? *Maybe*. I'm not sure. (maybe adv.=it's possible, perhaps)

Maybe she is at home.

想体现“客观、中等可能性”, 用“may”
Governments *may* need to invest more in renewable energy.

想弱化观点、体现“不确定性”, 用“might”
People *might* prefer online shopping for its convenience.

想强调“理论可能”或“委婉建议”, 用“could”
Cities *could* improve public transport to reduce traffic.

日常交流多用“might/could”让语气更自然; 正式话题(如社会问题)可穿插“may”提升严谨感。

Possibility

不同时态的可能性表达

现在时

- 现在某件事的可能性

may(not), might(not), could(not), must, cannot/can't + 动词原形

He may remember some thing already.

- 正在说话时发生某件事的可能性

may(not), might(not), could(not), must, cannot/can't + be +v-ing

They must be having a difficult time adjusting to it all.

过去时

- 过去某件事的可能性

may(not), might(not), could(not), must, cannot/can't + have +done

I lost one of my gloves. I must have dropped it somewhere.

He could have had a wife and children.

Max walked into a wall. He can't have been looking where he was going.

- 过去正在说话时发生某件事的可能性

may(not), might(not), could(not), must, cannot/can't + have been +v-ing

He might have been trying to run away from his past.

Something could
have happened
=it was possible, but
did not happen

Possibility

不同时态的可能性表达

将来时

- 将来某件事的可能性

may(not), might(not), could(not) + 动词原形

He could make a total recovery one day.

cannot 和 must 一般不能表示将来可能性

He must be tired.

He must come tomorrow. (这不是“可能”，而是“必须/命令”。)

She can't be at home now.

She can't come tomorrow. (这表示“她明天不能来”，不是“可能性”)

- 将来正在说话时发生某件事的可能性

may(not), might(not), could(not), must, cannot/can't + be +v-ing

I might be meeting John later.

Hedging language模糊限制语 / 委婉表达语

- 让观点听起来更客观、谨慎、学术化
- 避免绝对化、武断的表达

Student's work	Teacher's comment
People <u>are unkind</u> about their colleagues but it <u>is simply</u> because they are feeling insecure at work.	How do you know this?
People <u>can be unkind</u> about their colleagues but it <u>may simply be</u> because they are feeling insecure at work.	Good sentence.
Banning cars with high fuel consumption <u>is a good idea</u> , as it <u>will result</u> in less pollution.	This is a very strong opinion.
Banning cars with high fuel consumption <u>may be a good idea</u> , as it <u>could result</u> in a less pollution.	Good sentence. You are making your opinion 'softer'.

理解语气差异。

He may come = ____% possible

He might come = ____% possible

He could come = ____% possible

He must come = ____% possible

He can't come = ____% possible

1 Look! All the lights are on in their house. They _____ at home.

☒ A. must be

B. must have been

C. can't be

D. could have been

2 I can't find my keys anywhere. I _____ them in the office.

A. must leave

B. might be leaving

☒ C. must have left

D. can't leave

3 Don't call him now. It's 3 a.m. there. He _____.

- ☒ A. must be sleeping
- B. must have slept
- C. can't be sleeping
- D. may have slept

4 "Where is John?"

"I'm not sure. He _____ in the library. He often goes there."

- ☒ A. could be studying
- B. must have studied
- C. can't be studying
- D. must study

5 The ground is completely dry. It _____ last night.

- A. mustn't rain
- ☒ B. can't have rained
- C. may not rain
- D. couldn't rain

Necessity and obligation

must (mustn't) 、have to、have got to、need to 表义务 / 必要

have to/need to/be able to/ought to

半情态动词：在意义上像情态动词（表示义务、可能性、建议等），但在语法形式上又 像普通动词（有时态变化、需要助动词）。

特征	真情态动词 (must, can, should)	半情态动词 (have to, need to...)
后接动词	动词原形	动词原形
否定形式	不用助动词：mustn't, can't	用助动词：don't have to, don't need to
疑问句	不用助动词：Must you...?	用助动词：Do you have to...?
时态变化	✗ 没有	✓ 可以变时态
语义作用	表示说话者态度	表示客观情况或能力

Necessity and obligation

must (mustn't) 、have to、have got to、need to 表义务 / 必要

must:

- 体现说话者**主观**要求 You must invite me.
- 形式不变 (无三单) He must try a bit harder.
- 多用于标志、通知和印刷信息 All employees must hold a valid work permit.

have to/need to

- 更侧重规则、**客观**需求 You have to get a work permit before you go.
- 可用于过去时态 He had to get up really early to catch the ferry to work.
- 可用于将来时态 You will have to learn some English.

*have to比must在口语中更常用，写作中两个都会用到

must 和 have to 在表示 客观的法律或规则要求 时，通常可以互换。

have got to: 口语常用，书面少用，且仅用于现在时

I've got to find somewhere to live quite quickly.

I have got to see this movie!

一般不用 must/ought to 直接造疑问句

What do you need to know? ~~What must you know? What ought you to know?~~

No obligation

don't have to、not need to、needn't 表没义务/必要做

You needn't buy lots of guide books before you go.

(= it is not necessary to buy guide books before you go)

You don't have to wait for ages.

(= it is not necessary to wait)

You mustn't wait here.

(= it is not allowed to wait here)

mustn't 表禁止

过去 / 将来的无义务

过去: needn't have done (did it, but now we know that it was not necessary)

I needn't have bought the book.

didn't need to / didn't have to (it was not necessary to do it. It doesn't matter whether we did it or not) I didn't need to go to work.

将来 not have to / not need to

I hope I won't have to work late tonight.

He's not going to need to come to the meeting after all.

1 According to the company rules, you _____ use your personal phone during working hours.

☒ A. mustn't

B. don't have to

C. needn't

D. didn't have to

2 I feel really tired. I _____ take a break, or I'll make a mistake.

A. have to

☒ B. must

C. had to

D. will have to

3 She _____ finish the report by yesterday, so she worked until midnight.

A. must

B. has to

☒ C. had to

D. mustn't

4 I _____ go to the meeting after all because it was cancelled.

A. mustn't

☒ B. didn't need to

C. needn't have gone

D. hadn't to

Suggestions and advice

常规建议：用 **should (n't)**、**ought (not)** to 提建议

You should try and use it whenever you can. (= I think it is a good idea)

You ought to take lots of passport photos with you.

You shouldn't dress casually for work.

强烈劝告：用 **must** 加强语气

You must phone me when you get there.

副词搭配 (Adverbs)

also、**always** 等副词放情态动词后

You should always carry plenty of loose change.

You must never do that again.

用 **really** 加强强调, 放动词前

You really have to see it to believe it.

Suggestions and advice

You should have done something = you didn't do it, but it would have been a good thing to do:

You missed a great party last night. You should have come. Why didn't you?

(= you didn't come, but it would have been good to come)

You shouldn't have done something = you did it, but it wasn't a good thing to do

I'm feeling sick. I shouldn't have eaten so much. (= I ate too much)

正式 / 学术写作中，常用 should、need to 等表达观点，体现义务、建议逻辑。

Governments should take advice from the experts before making new laws.

Companies need to consider cultural differences when engaging in business with overseas organisations.

Suggestions and advice

请翻译

看电视过多会导致孩子近视。

Watching TV too much **will** lead to shortsightedness among children.

will - 一定会，就会（绝对化）

Watching TV too much **would** lead to shortsightedness among children.

would-结果出现的可能性，而不是必然性或者绝对性

High quality nursery schools **could** be established that **would** support families more in terms of raising the next generation. The government **should** fund this kind of parental support, because this is no longer a problem for individual families, but for society as a whole/

could - 可以采取的措施

would - 如果某些措施被实施，可能会带来的结果

should - 应该采取的措施

need dare

这两个词之所以特殊是因为它们既是情态动词也是实义动词。

need 作为情态动词多用在否定句中或者疑问句中，其后一定接动词原形；要想用在肯定句中则需要和 **only, all** 等词配合，如：

We need only wait now. = We needn't do anything now.

All we need do is clean the house.

为了避免出错，在肯定句中就当它是实义动词就好，这个时候用法为：

sb. need to do sth. / need sth. / sth. need doing sth. = sth. need to be done

need 后面搭配 **doing**，是主动形式表示被动意义，如：

This shirt needs washing. = This shirt needs to be washed.

关于 **dare**，雅思考试中出现的不多。与 **need** 相同的是 **dare** 也是情态动词和实义动词。

dare 当实义动词时可以说 **dare to do sth.**，也可以省略 **to** 说成 **dare do sth.**，

我不敢告诉他事实

I don't dare to tell him the truth. (实义动词)

I don't dare tell him the truth. (实义动词)

I daren't tell him the truth. (情态动词)

must have done	一定已经..... (表示对过去发生的事情的肯定推测)
may / might have done	可能已经..... (对过去发生事件的不确定的推测, 相比之下 might 比 may 的语气还要不确定)
can have done	可能已经..... (与上面不同的是这个结构多半用在疑问句中)
could have done	本来能够..... (言下之意是没有.....)
cannot have done	不可能已经..... (可以说是 must 肯定推测的反义)
couldn't have done	可以替换 cannot have done
needn't have done	本不必.....
should have done	本应该.....
ought to have done	本应该..... (否定表示本不应该.....)

Practice (Writing)

Read the following essay. Find seven places where you can add may, can or can't to soften the verbs.

'Children can be adversely affected by the influence of television.' To what extent do you agree with this statement? Give reasons for your answer.

Almost every family has a television these days, and many children watch a whole range of programmes every day. Some people believe that television is harmful to children, saying that it influences behaviour in a negative way.

can be harmful

can/may influence

There are a lot of programmes on television that are not educational and that contain violence and bad language. However, watching violence on television encourages violent behaviour in

can/may encourage

children. This is true in cases of children who have already exhibited violent tendencies, but it isn't true of all children, otherwise we would have an epidemic of child crime. It is also argued that bad language on television encourages the same in children.

may be

can't be true

can/may encourage

Nevertheless, overall I believe that restricting children's television viewing to mainly educational programmes shown at a time of day when there is no violence or bad language will overcome any risks of television being a bad influence.

may overcome

Practice (Speaking)

Part 1 & 3

Why do people like music?

People **may** like music because it **can** make them feel relaxed and inspired. It **might** also help them express emotions that they can't put into words.

What will your hometown be like in the future?

My hometown **would** probably become more modern in the future. There **may** be more tall buildings and better public transport, but there **could** also be problems like traffic jams.

Who should take care of children?

I believe parents **should** mainly take care of their children, but teachers and the community **can** also help them grow and learn.

Part 2

Describe your dream...(e.g. home)

My ideal home **would** be in Foshan or it **could** be in Guangzhou. It **should** have two bedrooms and it **might** have a spacious balcony...