

Mild obligation:

It is advisable / recommended (for you) to
You are supposed to

Modal verb:

You should / ought

Strong obligation:

It is essential / necessary / urgent (for you) to
You are obliged to

Modal verb:

You must / have to
You are to

Lack of obligation:

Please try to
I am not obliged to
It wasn't necessary to
There was no need to

Modal verb:

You don't have / need to

Past: I didn't have to get up early. (so I didn't)
I needn't have got up early. (but I did)

Prohibition:

No smoking.
It is not allowed to
On no account *are you* allowed
Under no circumstances *are you*

Modal verb:

You must not

Certainty:

Affirmative deduction:

I am certain that she *stole*

Modal verb:

She must *have stolen*

Negative deduction:

I am certain that she didn't *steal*

Modal verb:

She couldn't / can't *have stolen*

Moral obligation:

He should have helped you. (but he didn't)

Polite requests:

may / might (possibility, probability)

Ex.: He might be upstairs.

Past: He might have been late.

Reproach, possibility concession (posledica)

Ability, inability:

Modal verb:

Present: Can - Natural, learned ability

Past: could (learned ability) / was able to (specific situation in the past)

■ for unsuccessfully accomplished action in the past *couldn't* can be applied

■ we use *can* with verbs of perception (can hear, see, smell)