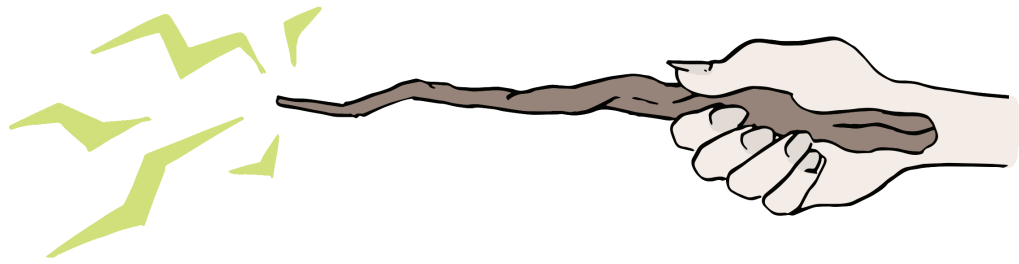


Chapter 5



Amber, once again, found herself in the headteacher's office in the space of a few hours.

"I really haven't got time for this," Miss Canning muttered. "I have far more pressing affairs." Amber sat on the edge of her seat; her heart in her mouth, waiting for those unwelcome words which would seal her fate. "You have evidently failed both your Potion class and the Magic Spells assessment this morning," she went on. "You are clearly not trying, Dripping. Strictly speaking, I should ask you to leave immediately." She then went on to say something that gave a little flutter of hope in Amber's heart. "However, Mr Broom has spoken up for you and it could perhaps be arranged..." Miss Canning was unable to finish her sentence for there was a tremendous explosion just outside the office door, sending shattered glass and splintering wood flying in all directions. "Oh dear! It is as I feared," she managed to groan before striding out into the corridor.

Amber peered round what remained of the door to see what all the commotion was about. At one end of the corridor stood Mr Broom and Mrs Ledbetter doing their best to hold on to a relatively new teacher called Miss Wand, who was shouting and cursing and making all sorts of threats.

"You will definitely have to leave this instant, Miss Wand," Miss Canning stated firmly. Amber, like all the other girls, had heard the rumours. Apparently, Miss Wand had not been following the curriculum. She had been reputedly teaching some of the girls the black arts, despite taking the oath (which all staff at Spellcaster Academy were required to do) to only use magic for good.

"You will pay for this!" screeched the demented Miss Wand. From inside her gown she produced a strange bent wand, which she pointed straight at Miss Canning. Sparks and smoke shot out of the wand and down the corridor towards the headteacher like a bullet from a gun. But Miss Canning was ready for her. She raised her hand and, using her own powerful magic, she made a force field that stopped the missile in its tracks and sent it fizzling to the ground before her feet.

"You certainly haven't seen the last of me!" shrieked the deranged witch and, releasing herself from the teachers' grip, she stormed out of the school.

Miss Canning staggered back into her office and slumped into her chair exhausted. Her gaze fell upon Amber, who was crouched against the wall. "What are you still doing here, Dripping?" she enquired, putting her head in her hands. "You are obviously expelled!"





I can identify and use modal adverbs.

Some modal adverbs, like modal verbs, show degrees of possibility. We use them to show how certain we are about something.

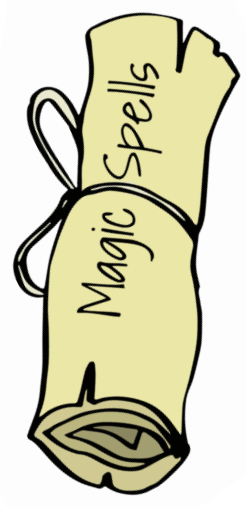
The most common modal adverbs of possibility are:

certainly definitely maybe possibly surely exactly
clearly obviously perhaps probably really absolutely

As Amber collected her belongings from her locker some of the staff and the children came up to speak to her.

Underline all the modal adverbs in the sentences.

- 1 Surely she didn't ask you to leave!
- 2 She definitely did.
- 3 Maybe you misunderstood.
- 4 She certainly couldn't have made it any clearer.
- 5 Perhaps I could have another word with Miss Canning.
- 6 I absolutely messed up my assessment.
- 7 Turning a pencil to jelly possibly wasn't the most sensible thing to do.
- 8 I really don't deserve to stay at Spellcaster Academy.
- 9 You'll probably have to go to an ordinary school.
- 10 I don't exactly know what I'm going to do.



11 Now write some sentences of your own, using the modal adverbs, as if you were joining in the conversation.

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Extension See if you can identify the modal adverbs in the passage.





I can identify and use modal adverbs.

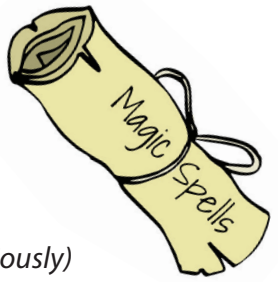
Some modal adverbs, like modal verbs, show degrees of possibility. We use them to show how certain we are about something.

The most common modal adverbs of possibility are:

certainly definitely maybe possibly surely exactly
clearly obviously perhaps probably really absolutely

As Amber collected her belongings from her locker some of the staff and the children came up to speak to her.

Choose the most appropriate modal adverb from the bracket.



- 1 she didn't ask you to leave! (*really / surely*)
- 2 She **did**. (*perhaps / definitely*)
- 3 you misunderstood. (*certainly / perhaps*)
- 4 She **couldn't have made it any clearer**. (*certainly / obviously*)
- 5 I could have another word with Miss Canning. (*exactly / perhaps*)
- 6 I **messed up my assessment**. (*absolutely / probably*)
- 7 Turning a pencil to jelly wasn't the most sensible thing to do. (*possibly / exactly*)
- 8 I **don't deserve to stay at Spellcaster Academy**. (*maybe / really*)
- 9 You'll have to go to an ordinary school. (*probably / absolutely*)
- 10 I don't **know what I'm going to do**. (*possibly / exactly*)

11 Now write some sentences of your own, using the modal adverbs, as if you were joining in the conversation.

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Extension See if you can identify the modal adverbs in the passage.





I can identify and use modal adverbs.

Some modal adverbs, like modal verbs, show degrees of possibility. We use them to show how certain we are about something.

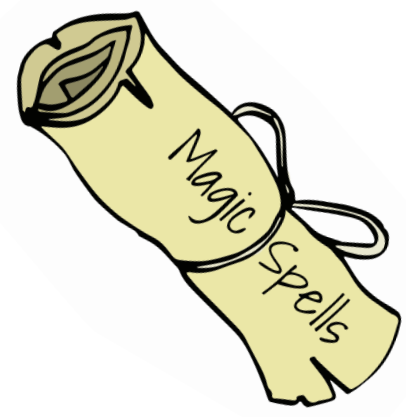
The most common modal adverbs of possibility are:

certainly definitely maybe possibly surely exactly
clearly obviously perhaps probably really absolutely

As Amber collected her belongings from her locker some of the staff and the children came up to speak to her.

Choose the most appropriate modal adverb from the box above to fit the gaps. (Some modal adverbs are interchangeable.)

- 1 she didn't ask you to leave!
- 2 She **did**.
- 3 you misunderstood.
- 4 She **couldn't have made it any clearer**.
- 5 I could have another word with Miss Canning.
- 6 I **messed up my assessment**.
- 7 Turning a pencil to jelly wasn't the most sensible thing to do.
- 8 I **don't deserve to stay at Spellcaster Academy**.
- 9 You'll have to go to an ordinary school.
- 10 I don't **know what I'm going to do**.



11 Now write some sentences of your own, using the modal adverbs, as if you were joining in the conversation.

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Extension See if you can identify the modal adverbs in the passage.

