



Comparison of modal verbs between German and English languages.

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Abstract: This article shows that German and English languages have what kind of modal verbs and shapes of them.

Key words: können, dürfen, müssen, sollen, wollen, mögen and shapes of modal verbs.

Modal verbs(Die Modal Verben)

Learning foreign languages is related to many factors in our country. Political, economical, cultural, social potential of our country and its international attitudes also legal and global degree of immixture to branch effect teaching questions of foreign language and its process of learning. In the process of learning foreign language as the first language- the most important language dominates according to efficacy plump-line. Nowadays German and English languages are certain examples.

Modal verbs mostly dovetail to grammar of German and English languages. Modal verbs are used to express probability, necessity, obligation, capability.

In German language this verbs are less than English language.

They: können, dürfen, müssen, sollen, wollen, mögen.

Modal verbs can't denote basic meaning in both languages. However, they betoken additional meaning.

- Ich fahre mein Rad.
- I ride my bike.

Let's revolve sentence with modal verb.

- Ich kann mein Rad fahren.
- I can ride my bike.

As a conclusion from these sentences, this modal verb adds

“capability “meaning. These sentences express that ones have capability for riding ones own bikes but no others.

Pay attention layout!

They are difference.

- 1) In German language modal verb locates after subject and infinitive comes the end of sentences.
- 2) In English language modal verb locates after subject and infinitive also comes after the modal verb.

In the fact that modal verbs are used to emphasize tact.

- Kann ich zum Badezimmer gehen?
- Can I go tot he bathroom?

This situation is more non-official.

If you have enough knowledge from the German language, you know that “zu” is suitable for “ to” preposition of English language.

Let's meet German modal verbs one by one.

1.Dürfen –“may”

Ich darf

Du darfst

Er / sie /es darf

Wir dürfen

Ihr dürft

Sie /sie dürfen

Dürfen (to have permission) modal verb express to attitude to permission, leave. This is suitable “may “ modal verb in English language.As a indicating, German modal verbs inflect according to person.

- Er darf Fussball spielen.
- He may play soccer.

2. Können-“can”

Ich kann

Du kannst

Er/sie/es kann

Ihr könnt

Sie/sie können

Können (to be able to) modal verb is used to express several chances of subject to do motion.It is suitable for “can” English modal verb.

- Sie kann mich hören.
- She can’t hear me.

3. Wollen- “want”

Ich will

Du willst

Er/sie/es will

Wir wollen

Ihr wollt

Sie/sie wollen

Wollen (to want, to desire)modal verb expresses will to do something.

However,in English language it is not equivalent. Therefore, it coincides a strong verb “want”.

- Ich will einen schönen Tag.
- I want a beautiful day.

4. Sollen-“Should”

Ich soll

Du sollst

Er/sie/es soll



Wir sollen

Ihr sollt

Sie/sie sollen

Sollen (necessary, important, needful) modal verb expresses liability that somebody gives advice, direction, offer.

It is suitable for “should” English modal verb.

- Wir sollen einen Film sehen.
- We should see a movie.

5. Müssen- “must”

Ich muss

Du must

Er/sie /es muss

Ihr müsst

Sie/sie müssen

Müssen(important, necessary, essential) modal verb formulates subjects own will to do something.

It is suitable for “must” English modal verb.

Both of them are used the same meaning as a modal verb.

- Billy muss müde sein, weil er letzte Nacht nicht gut geschlafen hat.
- Billy must be tired because he didn't sleep well last night.
- Sie müssen einen Job finden.
- They must find a job.

You should remind this. Germans a lot use “ müssen” modal verb. But Englishmen more take “ should”modal verb.

6.Mögen- “ to like”

Ich mag

Du magst

Er/sie/es mag

Wir mögen

Ihr mögt

Sie/sie mögen

This modal verb (like, want)expresses will of subject to action.

It is not an equivalent modal verb in English language.

It is suitable for a strong verb “ like”.

- Er magt fischen
- He likes to fish.

Modality expresses the same means between two languages. To tell the truth these express through lexic, syntactic and grammatic means.

The category of mood is also expressive grammatic modality between German and English languages. The category of mood is action of events attitude towards outlook of speaker, expressive reality, imperative willing requests and other feelings of grammatic category. Mood is a concept that is used for different type of form verbs. The category of mood of verb conveys action of events attituding towards reality and imperative. Modality appears in followings: trust, distrust, guess, conditionality, necessity, possible or impossible, love.

These concepts are expressed through the category of mood.

Mood is category of morphologic verb that is significant expressive language means. Modality is semantic category which comes with real, unreal belief, guess, doubt, supposition, emphasis, definiteness.

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