

Auxiliary verbs: diagnostic

Part 1 | Questions 1-6 | Work before using the reference sheet.

Work on paper. Follow the instruction for each item and keep the original time reference. Full negative forms and contractions are both acceptable. Where a short answer is requested, use a pronoun and the appropriate auxiliary or modal.

Name or agreed code: _____ Date: _____

1. Continuous be

The students are preparing a club visit. Choose the word: They ____ planning the route now. (are / do)

2. Perfect have

Complete the present perfect sentence: Sara ____ sent two invitations already. (has / does)

3. Present question

Kai checks the bookings every Monday. Turn this statement into a yes/no question about Kai.

4. Past negative

Hana sent the reminder yesterday. Rewrite this as a negative statement, keeping yesterday.

5. Be: question and answer

They are using the small room. Write the yes/no question, then give a negative short answer about they.

6. Have: question and answer

Omar has booked the tickets. Write the yes/no question, then give a positive short answer using he.

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Part 2 | Questions 7-12 | Work before using the reference sheet.

Work on paper. Follow the instruction for each item and keep the original time reference. Full negative forms and contractions are both acceptable. Where a short answer is requested, use a pronoun and the appropriate auxiliary or modal.

7. Modal: question and answer

Leah can repair the bike. Write the yes/no question, then give a negative short answer using she.

8. Modal plus base verb

Correct the advice without changing should: They should to bring a notebook.

9. Prohibited or optional?

Club rules: entering the locked storage room is forbidden; bringing your own pen is optional. Complete both sentences using mustn't or don't have to: You ____ enter the storage room. You ____ bring your own pen.

10. Have as a main verb

Mina has a laptop. Ask a yes/no question using do-support and have. Then give a positive short answer using she.

11. Who is the subject?

Mina invited Omar. Write two questions: (a) ask who invited Omar; (b) ask who Mina invited. Use who in each question.

12. More than one auxiliary

They have been waiting outside. Write (a) the yes/no question and (b) a negative statement. Keep the present perfect continuous form in both.

A reference for checking

Use after your first attempt. Notice the auxiliary and the form after it.

Pattern / statement	Question / negative	Short answers
Be + -ing They are waiting.	Are they waiting? They are not waiting.	Yes, they are. / No, they aren't.
Have + past participle She has arrived.	Has she arrived? She has not arrived.	Yes, she has. / No, she hasn't.
Present simple + do He opens the club.	Does he open the club? He does not open the club.	Yes, he does. / No, he doesn't.
Past simple + do They sent the email.	Did they send the email? They did not send the email.	Yes, they did. / No, they didn't.
Core modal + base verb She can help.	Can she help? She cannot help.	Yes, she can. / No, she can't.

If the verb phrase already has be, perfect have or a core modal, use its first auxiliary or modal for the question and add not after it for the negative.

For ordinary main verbs in simple present/past questions and negatives, use do/does/did plus the base verb. Main-verb be is different: Is she ready? She is not ready.

A neutral positive subject question usually needs no extra do: Who called? Compare the object question: Who did you call?

Positive short answers use an uncontracted final verb: Yes, she is; Yes, he has. Negative short answers can contract: No, she isn't; No, he hasn't. With I am, use No, I'm not.

For a passive, use be plus a past participle: The room was cleaned. Was the room cleaned? The room was not cleaned.

Core modals: common uses

Modal	One example
can	I can carry the box.
could	Could you check the time?
may	The visit may finish early.
might	We might need another chair.
must	You must keep the exit clear.
shall	Shall we start?
should	You should check the address.
will	I will carry the bags.
would	Would you hold the door?

These are examples of common uses, not a one-meaning-per-verb rule. Core modals take a base verb and no third-person -s; questions do not add do. Mustn't means forbidden, while don't have to means optional. Have to is a modal-meaning expression with a different form: Do we have to book?

Plan a club visit together

Pair practice | Make up the facts. Listen, answer and ask a follow-up.

Work with a partner to plan a fictional club visit. You do not need to share personal information. For each prompt, ask a yes/no question, get a short answer and ask one follow-up question of your choice. Swap roles. Write down one complete exchange, then check the auxiliary and main-verb form together.

1. A routine

Find out whether the club opens on Saturdays. Use open, not be open.

2. Happening now

Find out whether your partner is waiting for the bus now.

3. Already done

Find out whether your partner has booked the tickets. Use the present perfect.

4. Help or permission

Find out whether your partner can carry a box. Then ask when they can help.

Before you finish

Circle one auxiliary you used correctly. Underline one verb form you changed after feedback. Keep the reference sheet for your next speaking task.