

UNIT 3

MODALS OF POSSIBILITY - MAY, MIGHT, WILL

You have learned that going to expresses a formal plan when you use it to talk about the future. Otherwise, you can use the modals *may*, *might* and *will* when you want to express possibility in the future. In this type of sentences you can add expressions like *definitely*, *I'm not sure but...*, *Maybe*, *I don't know yet*, to intensify or lower the idea of possibility you want to transmit.

Exercises adapted from Open Mind 2, Macmillan, 2010, p. 91.

Read this e-mail. How is Greg traveling to visit Matt?

Hi Greg!

*I'm waiting about the plans for your visit this weekend. It all depends on the weather. I'm not sure, but we *may* go up to the mountains to show you some of the local area, so bring walking shoes! I *might* be at work on Friday. I don't know yet. Jill *will* definitely meet you at the train station, though, so don't worry!*

See you soon!

Matt

Look at the e-mail again. Observe some rules of the modals of possibility.

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Form	Use
<p data-bbox="323 817 663 862">may/might (not)</p> <p data-bbox="244 1104 738 1149">will ('ll) / will not (won't)</p>	<p data-bbox="810 432 1390 678">Use modals of possibility to talk about things that are possible in the present or future, but which we are not sure about.</p> <p data-bbox="810 835 1342 947">Use <i>might</i> / <i>may</i> when we are less certain.</p> <p data-bbox="810 1104 1278 1216">Use <i>will</i> when we are more certain.</p>