

4

Modals: probability, possibility (*could / may / might / ought to / should*) – *enough / too*

Intermediate GrammarPlus

Globalisation: Pros and Cons

1 Read this essay. What possible disadvantages of globalisation does the writer mention?

Many commentators believe it is highly likely that the process of globalisation will lead to positive changes in the world economy, for example that it ought to encourage greater stability and prosperity. However, there are also many critics of globalisation, who focus on the negative aspects of the process. The latter believe that, on the whole, there are too many disadvantages which, in effect, outweigh the advantages.

On the one hand, it is argued that globalisation has already enriched peoples' lives in certain ways. Many consumers enjoy greater access to goods from all over the world, and since the market is more dynamic, there is some chance that this could bring greater prosperity for everybody in the long term. Other observers are more cautious and say that while this positive development may perhaps be true for more highly-developed countries, it is unlikely to produce positive effects in the less wealthy countries of the world, which are not stable enough to enjoy such advantages.

Another argument in favour of globalisation is that investment in emerging countries will help poorer nations. It is also said, however, that multinationals who make such investments act purely



out of self-interest and might actually damage the domestic economy of these countries, even though it is probably too early to say. In some cases they create too much pollution in the areas they target and the wages they pay the domestic labour force are just too low.

At the moment, there has not been enough time to realistically evaluate and foresee the effects globalisation will have in the future. Although, predictably, the process should give rise to mutual benefits to all countries, in practice there are still many problems to be resolved.

DISCOVER

Grammar 1 (Modals: *could / may / might / ought to / should*)

2 Identify the modals in these extracts from the essay. Then find them in the text and answer the questions in the Deductions box, using the context to help you.

- 1 *The process should give rise to mutual benefits to all countries.*
- 2 *It ought to encourage greater stability and prosperity.*
- 3 *This could bring greater prosperity for everybody in the long term.*
- 4 *This positive development may perhaps be true for more highly developed countries.*
- 5 *Multinationals might actually be damaging the domestic economy of these countries.*

DEDUCTIONS

- a Which extracts refer to an outcome that is probable?
- b What kind of outcome do the modals in the other extracts refer to?
- c In this context, do the modals refer to past time, present time, or future time?

- 3 Substitute the expressions in bold indicating likelihood in sentences 1-5 with a different modal for each sentence.
- If multinational companies behave in a responsible manner, **it is possible that** all countries of the world **will** enjoy the benefits of globalisation.
 - There is a good chance that** emerging countries **will** significantly increase overseas investments in the near future.
 - With adequate encouragement, **perhaps** governments **will** promote policies to reduce the negative effects of pollution.
 - Within the next few years, **it is quite likely that** the benefits of globalisation **will** be more evident.
 - There is some chance that** wages **will** increase over the next few years.

DISCOVER

Grammar 2 (enough / too)

- 4 Look at these extracts from the essay, then cross out the incorrect options in the Deductions box.
- The latter believe that, on the whole, there are too many disadvantages.*
- It is unlikely to produce positive effects in the less wealthy countries of the world, which are not stable enough to enjoy such advantages.*
- In some cases they create too much pollution.*
- The wages they pay the domestic labour force are just too low.*
- At the moment, there has not been enough time to realistically evaluate and foresee the effects globalisation will have in the future.*

DEDUCTIONS

- enough** goes *before / after* an adjective or an adverb
- enough** goes *before / after* a noun
- too** is followed by *an adjective or an adverb / a noun*
- too much / too many** is followed by *an adjective or adverb / a noun*
- too much** is used with *countable / uncountable nouns*

- 5 Fill in the gaps with *enough, too, too much or too many*.

- Is the postal service efficient _____?
- It's _____ chaotic in the city centre.
- There aren't _____ shoppers in the High Street nowadays.
- The cost of petrol is _____ high at the moment.
- I don't want to invite _____ guests to my wedding. It's so expensive!
- There is _____ sugar in the coffee. I don't like sweet things.



COMMUNICATE

Pair Work

- 6 Talk about changes you imagine will take place in your country in the near future. Use modals and the expressions below. Think about population, standard of living, opportunities for employment.

USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

(probability)

Probably ... will...

It's quite likely / probable that ... will...

There's a good chance that ... will...

There's a good chance of (+*ing*)...

(possibility)

Perhaps ... will...

It's possible that ... will...

Perhaps it will be possible to (+ infinitive)...

There's some chance that ... will...