

Maple Class, Year 5 Spelling, 29th September 2025

Learning Objective: **Modal Verbs and Contractions.**

Success Criteria:

- I will know what a modal verb is.
- I will be able to use the rule for this week's spellings to use an apostrophe correctly to show a contraction.

Rule : When the word **have** follows a **modal verb**, it can be shortened to **-ve** and joined to the modal verb with an **apostrophe**

Look	Trace	Copy 1	Copy 2
should have / should've	should have / should've		
could have / could've	could have / could've		
would have / would've	would have / would've		
might have / might've	might have / might've		
must have / must've	must have / must've		

Rule 2: When the word **not** follows a **modal verb**, it can be shortened by joining the **n** to the modal verb, **losing** the **o**, **replacing** it with an apostrophe **before** the **t**

Look	Trace	Copy 1	Copy 2
must not / mustn't	must not / mustn't		
might not / mightn't	might not / mightn't		
should not / shouldn't	should not / shouldn't		
shall not / shan't (exception to rule)	shall not / shan't (exception to rule)		
will not / won't (exception to rule)	will not / won't (exception to rule)		

Top Tips for learning a spelling:

1. Test yourself – how many do you know? Look at what you got right and what you got wrong. Often, people are wrong only because of one letter.
2. Learn your spellings using scrabble tiles. Pick out the letters to make the word. Mix them up and make the word from memory.
3. Look at the way colour has been used in the examples. The colour is used to pick out the rule or the syllables: Write out your spellings using this two-colour method: vegetable
4. Find words within words: vegetable
5. Learn the rule. Make sure you understand it.
6. Make your own flashcards – learn three a day.