



## **AN ANALYSIS OF MODAL AUXILIARY CAN IN THE BOOK OF RULES OF LIFE BY RICHARD TEMPLAR**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The title of this research that an analysis of Modal Auxiliary Can in the book of The Way of Life that was written by Richards page 1 to 50. The descriptive method is used in this research. This research uses the theory of Betty Schramfer Azhar. The aim of this research that is to find out how many words modal auxiliary “Can” that it can be found. The taken data is from the book of The Way of Life. The data are selected and analyzed and the result of the research that there are as many as 60 modal auxiliaries and the biggest proportional of modal auxiliary can as ability is the biggest portion 40 modal auxiliaries (67%) and the second is possibility 19 modal auxiliaries (32%) .and the third portion is permission 1 modal auxiliary (1%)

Key words : Modal Auxiliary Can, Ability, Possibility and Permission

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Nowadays, it is acknowledged that English is one of the well-known languages in the world. It has become the most widely studied foreign language on the earth. One of the languages which are taught in university of our country is English language. English is one of the international languages that have an important role in the world. It is widely studied and used as a tool of communication among people all over the world. English becomes one of the important subject matter taught at school. In Indonesia English is considered at the first foreign language and becomes compulsory subject learned by the entire students from the telemetry up to university level.

Grammar is an important element to be learned in learning a language because it is used to understand the language. Language without grammar can cause confusion in comprehending the ideas, opinions, feelings of the person who expresses oral or written. English person who is good at grammar can communicate with language better than person that is low at grammar.

There are many aspects discussed in English grammar one of them is “Modal Auxiliaries”. Or “Modal Verb” are: can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, might, and must. These auxiliaries add to a special semantic component such as Ability, obligation, possibility. They have special



grammatical features; have more than one meaning, and also complex. Some modal change meaning in the negative must be expressed with other auxiliaries. Even though the modals are used only with the simple form of the verb so that In this case, the writer is interested to analyze modal auxiliaries which used in the book entitled “ *The Rules oLife* ” by Richard Templar to helping the readers differentiate and understand every word contain modal auxiliaries.

Based on the statement in the background of the study described above, it is necessary to analyze modal auxiliaries in the book “*The Rule of Life*” by Richard Templar page 1 to 50. Chapter 1 to 20, which was published in 2010.

To specify this problem, the specific research questions are formulated as follows:

1. How many modal auxiliaries can is used in the book of “*The Rule of Life*” by Richard Templar page 1 to 50. Chapter 1 to 20 which was published in 2010?
2. What kind of modal auxiliary can are often used in the book of “*The Rule of Life*” page 1 to 50. Chapter 1 to 20 by Richard Templar which was published in 2010?

In line with the formulation of the study, the objectives of this study are:

1. To describe how many modal auxiliary can is used in the book of “*The Rules of Life*” by Richard Templar. page 1 to 50. Chapter 1 to 20
2. To analyze what kind of modal auxiliary can is often used in the book of “*The Rules of Life*” by Richard Templar. page 1 to 50. Chapter 1 to 20

This paper is intended to find out modal auxiliaries in the book of *The Rule of Life* by Richard Templar page 1 to 50. Chapter 1 to 20 which was published in 2010. And is to enlarge the writer’s knowledge in their grammar especially in learning some modal auxiliaries.

## II. METHOD OF THE STUDY

This study uses a descriptive method since it was aimed to describe factual data and explain the character, situation, language phenomena in order to gain a systematic, factual, and accurate data. This method enabled a researcher to describe or present the picture of phenomena under investigation.

As for the steps of writing this study includes:

1. Selecting topic.
2. Collecting Resources.
3. Reading and examining the materials.



#### 4. Underlining and collecting data.

In this study, the selected data were taken from book of “The Rules of Life” By Richard Templar for analyzing the modal auxiliaries. The text selected was broken into kinds of modal auxiliaries can and can't.

### III. THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

#### A. Previous Research

##### 1. Sudirman (2010)

He studied the second grade students of MTs Muhammadiyah 1 Ciputat in learning modal Auxiliary, the writer wants to give a description in learning modal Auxiliary especially in Can and Could, to make it easy for the students. He used a descriptive analysis technique with visiting the school to do research, the writer gives them the test about Modal Auxiliary in meaning, function and form.

##### 2. Dwi Haryanto Topan (2016)

He studied modal auxiliary verbs as the principal means of expressing hedging in English academic discourse. For this purpose, a corpus of 75 primary empirical research articles from economics, linguistics, medicine, natural sciences and engineering was analyzed quantitatively with the help of corpus linguistic method. The results revealed that modal auxiliaries were used most frequently in linguistics and economics and least frequently in engineering and natural sciences while. Modal auxiliaries tend to be more common in soft sciences than in hard sciences

##### 3. Dian Putri Pertiwi (2019)

She described the type of modal auxiliary used which is not in linewith the usage or semantic meaning and illustrates the errors on the use of modal auxiliary that is often done by English Education Students at Muhammadiyah University of. The instrument used in this study is an essay test containing 9 modal auxiliaries. Subject in this study were 100 students of the English Education Students at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. The results showed that the semantic meanings had a lot of errors, namely 'prediction' (11%), while the modal that often had errors was 'may' (28.9%) and 'will' (27.2%) and the lowest was 'could' and 'might' (2.7% for each),

#### B. Syntax

Syntax is the grammatical structure of sentences. The format in which words and phrases are arranged to create sentences is called syntax.



#### Examples of Syntax in a Sentence:

- The boy jumped *happily*.
- The boy *happily* jumped.
- *Happily*, the boy jumped.

By rearranging just one word in the sentence, a varied syntax is formed. Each is grammatically correct and acceptable English language form.

#### C. Sentence

Halliday says:” *A sentence is a set of words that in principle tells a complete thought.*”

Please study the following example:

[1] *Teaching a foreign language.* The group of words above does not make complete sense although it might give some idea. When we listen to this group of words, we feel that we are left hanging, it does not tell the listeners ‘*who acts the action of teaching*’. It does not express a complete thought; it just gives the readers information about what is done. Therefore, it does not a sentence. Compare to the following group of words,

[2] *My father teaches foreign language.* The group if words [2], what the speaker talks about is clear. The group expresses a complete thought, even though the listener might need *more information such as:*

- Where does the father teach?
- When does the father teach?
- What foreign language he teaches?

The basic action is complete “Father teaches”.Such a group of words which expresses a complete thought is a sentence

#### D. Subject

Further Halliday says:” *Typically a sentence contains a **subject** and a **predicate**.*”

These statements bring us to a conclusion that a sentence consists of two parts. They are Subject and Predicate. In English sentence, a predicate is always a verb.

#### E. Predicate

Predicate tells us what the subject does or is, Therefore, a predicate of every sentence is a verb or contain a verb. A verb in a sentence does the job of showing the action (the actual physical action), or the state of being or existence.

For examples,



- My brother drives to his office. Showing action

**F. Complement**

In addition to the transitive verb and the intransitive verb, there is a third kind of verb called a linking verb. The word or phrase which follows a linking verb is called not an object, but a complement. The complement gives more information about either the subject or the object. A complement is any word or phrase that completes the sense of a subject or an object.

**G. Adverbial**

[25] [The hungry cat] [slept on the floor.]

In [25], the prepositional phrase ‘on the floor’ is not a direct object of the sentence. In this case we can’t question ‘what did the cat sleep?’ and expression ‘on the floor’ Cannot be the answer of the question ‘what’. Therefore, sleep is intransitive verb and on the floor

**H. Modal Auxiliaries**

**Definition of Modal Auxiliaries**

According to Betty Schramfer Azhar, the types of Modal Auxiliaries can be divided into two kinds. First, modal auxiliaries with different meaning such as: can, could, had better, may, might, must, ought to, shall, should, will, and would. Modals can be grouped into three major categories according to their main meaning (excluding used to, which relates to past time).

- a. Permission/possibility/ability: can, could, may, might
- b. Obligation/ necessity: must, should, had better, Have (got)to, need to, ought to, be supposed to
- c. Volition/prediction: will, would, shall, be going to

Meaning	Definition	Example
Permission	Evidence of some condition that determines whether an agent is or is not permitted to do something	<u>Can</u> I have some? You <u>can</u> read my book <u>Can</u> I have an apple please?
Possibility	Express the degree to which something is possible: inanimate noun/dummy it + can + linking verb + Adj noun phrase; or inanimate noun + can + main verb	Smoking <u>can</u> cause cancer
Ability	Evidence of an animate agent that is capable of doing something	I <u>can</u> hear what she’s saying about somebody

Table 2.4.1. Biberet al.’s (1999)



### III. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Based purpose of the study to analyzed the used of modal auxiliary can, so the corpus data for analysis was taken from the book of “The Rules of Life” by Richard Templar page 1 to 50 (Chapter 1 to 20). These are the following breakdown of the modal auxiliary can.

Chapter1. **Keep It Under Your Hat**, example “You will get a warm glow from changing your attitude to life and having people ask what it is you have done, are doing, and you **can** say that it’s nothing, merely a sunny day and you feel better/happier/livelier/whatever (Page.4, Line.24)” can also see in P.5 L.7

Chapter 2: **You’ll Get Older But Not Necessarily Wiser**

“We **can** carry on being just as foolish”. Can also see :P.6 L.2, can also see P.5 L2, P.6, L.12, P.6, L.12., P.7, L.21, P.7, L.13

Chapter 3: **Accept What Is Done Is Done**

“If you want to, you **can** let go of any feelings of resentment, of regret, of anger”. Can also see P.8, L.11

Chapter 4: **Accept Yourself.**

“ we **can** change lots, but that will come later”. Can also see P.10 L.15,17., P.10 L.24, 25, 27. P.11, L.4.8,

Chapter 5: **Know What Counts and What Doesn’t**

“I’m not saying we can’t have trivia in our lives—we **can** and it’s fine”. P.13 L.6

Chapter 6:**Dedicate Your Life To Something**

“And how **can** my curious upbringing cause me to focus on what I am dedicating my life”. Can also see P.14, L3., P.15,L.3,7,8

Chapter 7: **Be Flexible in Your Thinking**

If this thought scares you, remember that you **can** always go back into your shell the second it’s over, if you want to. P.17, L7

Chapter 9: **Be on the Side of the Angels, Not the Beasts**

And that effect **can** be positive or detrimental—it’s usually our choice P.20 L.7. Can also see P.20, L.16, P.21, L.12

Data modal auxiliary can from rule 10: **Only Dead Fish Swim in the Stream**

You only get burdened with as much as you **can** carry—although I do appreciate that at times it may seem as if it’s a whole lot more.P.22, L.23. Can also see P.22 L.26.



**Chapter 11: Be Your Own Adviser**

“Once you start listening to that inner voice or feeling the feeling, you’ll find it **can** help” P.26, L 13. Can also P.27, L 4, 12.

**Chapter 13: No Fear, No Surprise, No Hesitation, And No Doubt**

“I avoid high places if I **can**”. P.28 L.4. Can also see P.28, L 16, P.29, L 13

**Chapter 14: I Wish I’d Done That-and I Will**

“As it happens, they **can** be very useful—if you choose to use them”. P.30,L.3  
Can also see P.31, L 6, L.7.

**Chapter 15: It’s OK to Give Up**

“If the world is telling you that you took a wrong turn, you **can** admit it honestly and put yourself on a different track”. P.33, can also see L.7, L.8

**Chapter 16: Count to Ten-or Recite “Baa Baa Black Sheep”**

“Once I have collected my wits and calmed down, I **can** find an appropriate response”. P.34, L21. Can also see P.34, L.21, P.34, L.23

**Chapter 17:Change You Can Change; Let Go of The Rest**

“If someone asks you directly for help, then that’s something you **can** do—or not as you choose”. P.36, L.11. P.36, L.15, 21, 24. P.37,L7,L9,L.17

**Chapter 18: Aim to Be Very Best at Everything To Do-Not Second Best.**

“If you are a gardener, be the very best gardener you **can** be”. P.38, L.5. Can also see, P.38, L.17, L.20. L.27

**Chapter 19 : Don’t Expect To Be Perfect**

“He **can** just recognize that not everything works out and get to work on the next piece”. P.40, L.17. Can Also see P.41.L.6, P.41, L.13

**Chapter 20: If You’re Going To Jump Off a Bridge, Make Sure You Know How Deep The Water Is.**

“Well, eventually I started to make a living from my writing, but there were some pretty sticky years first, I **can** tell you”. P.44, L.11. Can also see P.45, L.9

#### **IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

In this study, the writer has chosen the book of “The Rules of Life” from page 1 to 50 by Richard Templar, the writer identified there are many modal auxiliary are used in this book. The modal auxiliary can be found in this book. There are as many as 60 modal auxiliaries and the biggest proportional of modal auxiliary can as ability is the biggest portion 40 modal auxiliaries (67%) and the second is possibility 19 modal auxiliaries (32%) .and the third portion is permission 1 modal auxiliary (1%)



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