Class 9 English Kaveri – Chapter 5

The World of Limitless Possibilities

GRAMMAR & STRUCTURES • CBSE 2026–27

This practice resource follows the grammar and structures activities in the uploaded Kaveri Chapter 5 textbook: modal auxiliaries and reported speech.

1. Modal Auxiliaries

The chapter introduces could, couldn't, should and would. Their functions depend on how they are used in a sentence.

Modal	Function	Example
could	possibility	It could rain today.
could	unreal ability	I could fly if I had wings.
could	request	Could you help me?
could	suggestion	You could practise every day.
couldn't	inability	She couldn't walk after the injury.
should	probability	The team should arrive soon.
should	advice	You should respect every athlete.
would	request	Would you help me?
would	past habit	He would practise every morning.

2. Textbook Examples – Identify the Function

1. I could hear the audience clapping. — past ability
2. It couldn't be helped. — impossibility
3. I should give it my best shot. — obligation
4. I knew if I tried, I would win. — prediction

3. Practice A – Identify the Modal Function

1. We could reach the final if we train regularly.

2. Could you lend me your notebook?

3. You could join the school sports club.

4. She couldn't complete the race because of the injury.

5. The bus should arrive in ten minutes.

6. You should respect all competitors.

7. Would you explain the rule again?

8. When he was young, he would practise every morning.

9. I could swim when I was six.

Answer Key: 1. possibility 2. request 3. suggestion 4. inability 5. probability 6. advice 7. request 8. past habit 9. past ability

4. Reported Speech

The chapter first identifies the interview sentences as Direct Speech and declarative sentences. It then shows how they change into reported speech.

Direct Speech	Reported Speech	Change
“You’ve been listed as one of the ten most inspirational women in sports.”	The interviewer said that she had been listed as one of the ten most inspirational women in sports.	statement → reported statement
“I love sports and had been a swimmer too.”	Dr. Malik said that she loved sports and had been a swimmer too.	statement → reported statement
“Your story is indeed a testament to the power of determination.”	The interviewer said that her story was indeed a testament to the power of determination.	statement → reported statement
“I believe youth is the voice of tomorrow.”	Dr. Malik says that she believes youth is the voice of tomorrow.	statement → reported statement

5. Steps to Remember

- Use a reporting verb such as said, told or says.
- Remove the quotation marks.
- Add the linking word that after the reporting verb when appropriate.
- Change pronouns and verb forms where required by the context.

6. Practice B – Change into Reported Speech

1. Siya said, “I watched a documentary on the para equestrian event on television last night.”

2. Siya said, “It was so interesting to watch.”

3. Siya said, “They also have to find and develop their own style of communication with their horse.”

4. Tarun said, “I will watch this documentary the next weekend.”

5. The interviewer said, “Your story is indeed a testament to the power of determination.”

6. Dr. Malik said, “I love sports and had been a swimmer too.”

Answer Key

1. Siya said that she had watched a documentary on the para equestrian event on television the previous night.
2. Siya added that it had been very interesting to watch.
3. Siya replied that they also had to find and develop their own style of communication with their horse.
4. Tarun said that he would watch that documentary the following weekend.
5. The interviewer said that her story was indeed a testament to the power of determination.
6. Dr. Malik said that she loved sports and had been a swimmer too.

7. Practice C – Direct or Reported Speech?

1. Dr. Malik said that she loved sports.

2. “I love sports,” said Dr. Malik.

3. The interviewer said that her story was inspiring.

4. “Your story is a testament to determination.”

Answers: 1. Reported Speech 2. Direct Speech 3. Reported Speech 4. Direct Speech

8. Practice D – Mixed Grammar Revision

1. You _____ try again if you do not succeed. (could / should)

2. _____ you help me with this question? (Could / Should)

3. She _____ swim when she was five. (could / would)

4. He _____ practise every morning when he was younger. (would / should)

5. The interviewer said that Dr. Malik _____ a swimmer. (was / is)

6. Dr. Malik said that she _____ sports. (loved / love)

7. The teacher said that the students _____ respect one another. (should / could)

8. Tarun said that he _____ watch the documentary the following weekend. (would / will)

Answers: 1. should 2. Could 3. could 4. would 5. was 6. loved 7. should 8. would

9. Quick Revision

Modal auxiliaries: could → possibility, unreal ability, request, suggestion; couldn’t → inability; should → probability, advice; would → request, past habit.

Reported speech: Identify the reporting verb, remove quotation marks, add ‘that’ where appropriate, and make necessary changes to pronouns and verb forms.

Source note: This resource is based on the Grammar and Structures activities in the uploaded Kaveri Chapter 5 student textbook, especially pages 148–151. The practice questions are newly written for revision and are not presented as verbatim textbook questions.