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with **Dr Jonathan**



Verb Moods
(Level: Intermediate)



Realis: indicates that something is true or real

- Sally is going for a run.

Irrealis: indicates that something is false or unreal

- **Conditional:** when something happening depends on something else happening
 - I would [buy something] if I could [just get some money].
 - We will go when he arrives.
 - Keeping searching while there is still daylight.
 - Drive straight until you see the sign.
- **Hypothetical:** something could/might have happened but did not
 - You could have hurt him when you hit him.
 - That bus might have killed you.



(Irrealis continued)

- **Imperative:** commands, requests, warnings, etc.
 - Please don't go.
 - Run the air conditioner during the day.
- **Inferential/reported:** reporting something second hand
 - **Inferential:** He must have said that it is going to rain today.
 - **Reported:** I'm told he said that it is going to rain today.
- **Interrogative:** asking a question
 - Would you like to go see a movie?
 - Can/may/could/should/might/do/will...?

(Irrealis continued)

- **Optative:** a hope or wish
 - May you live long!
 - If only I could go with you.
- **Potential:** something is possible, likely, or allowed
 - He can/may go with you.
 - I must/ought-to/should go to the meeting.
- **Subjunctive:** imaginary, hypothetical, emotional, opinionated, or requested things
 - I suggest you go home for the night.
 - I would sleep if I were tired.



Thanks for watching!

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