

# WAYS OF CONVEYING THE MEANINGS OF SUBJECTIVE MODALITY

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Subjective modality implies that the speaker considers the event or action mentioned as assumptive or suggestive (desirable, possible, impossible, doubtful, certain/uncertain, etc.), i.e., as likely or unlikely to take place. This type of modality is expressed in English and Ukrainian with the help of common means: a) modal words, modal expressions or sentences; b) with the help of parenthetical words/expressions or parenthetical sentences; c) with the help of modal particles.

English modals have usually direct semantic and structural equivalents in Ukrainian.

The modal words/expressions or parenthetical elements in the sentences expressing supposition, assumption, presumability, etc. are: *maybe, possibly, presumably, it is likely/most likely, it seems*, etc. These modals present the attitude of the speaker to an event/action as hypothetical, as likely to take (or as having taken place, etc.). Such modals have mostly direct equivalents in both languages:

*It was **probably** the first time in his adult life that he had ever cried.* – *Це було **мабуть/либонь** чи не вперше за все його доросле життя, що він сплакнув.*

English modal words and expressions whose meaning is predetermined by the contextual environment have often a hypothetical meaning, which may correspond to that of some Ukrainian modal particles or parenthetical adverbs/phrases. They include: **perhaps, evidently, scarcely, no/little possibility**, etc. Their Ukrainian hypothetical modal equivalents may be: **певно, напевно, напевно-таки, десь-то, навряд/навряд чи, справді/насправді**:

*Perhaps, you've seen her portrait in the papers.* – *Певно, ви бачили її фотографію в газетах.*

Modal words/expressions and parenthetical words/phrase or sentences expressing general assessment of a statement clearly point to the subjective evaluation of the action or event by the speaker. These are the following modals: **certainly, of course, surely, definitely, really, in fact, indeed, naturally, no doubt, without doubt, it is natural**, etc. Their Ukrainian equivalents are: **безперечно, безумовно, без сумніву/немає сумніву**,

зрозуміло, певна річ, правду сказати, природно, як відомо, як кажуть and others:

*Well, he **certainly** must have strained himself to get this menagerie together. – Він, **безперечно**, мусив би прикласти великих зусиль, щоб прибрати до рук увесь цей звіринець.*

Subjective modality may also be rendered in both languages via elliptical sentences:

*Was it because he was afraid of being lost in a bigger city? **Scarcely**. – Може це було тому, що він боявся загубитись у великому місті? **Навряд**.*