

Next Monday's Problems

a song by Alan Smith Robertson

<https://youtu.be/co-V6E3m-OU> (youtube)

<https://sptfy.es/nmp> (spotify)

Put the modal verbs from the list on the right into each of the gaps in the lyrics.

Put the verb (in brackets) into the correct form.

Then listen to the song to check.

Lyrics

Since he left I _____¹ (cry) a thousand tears
And now I wonder if his love was sincere

CHORUS

So come with me, we'll dance the night away
An anaesthetic just to numb the pain
'Cause I _____² (leave) my problems all behind
When the sun comes up I just _____³ (see) the light

I _____⁴ (tell) him about you, to make him see
He _____⁵ (come) to love me more and stayed with me

But these are all next Monday's problems
And if we dance we _____⁶ (outrun) them

CHORUS

So come with me, we'll dance the night away
An anaesthetic just to numb the pain
'Cause I _____⁷ (leave) my problems all behind
When the sun comes up I just _____⁸ (see) the light

_____ it all _____⁹ (be) my fault that our love died?
He _____¹⁰ (know) about the pain I felt inside

But these are all next Monday's problems
And if we dance we _____¹¹ (outrun) them

CHORUS

So come with me, we'll dance the night away
An anaesthetic just to numb the pain
'Cause I _____¹² (leave) my problems all behind
When the sun comes up I'll finally see the light

Modal verbs

can
can't have
could have
might
might have
must have
need
should have

- How many did you get right? Did you put the verb into the correct form after each modal?
- If you got a modal verb wrong, is the one that you actually chose grammatically possible?
 - What do each of the modal verbs mean?
 - How does the modal verb that you chose change the meaning of the phrase?

Next Monday's Problems

a song by Alan Smith Robertson to practise past modals in the ESL classroom

<https://youtu.be/co-V6E3m-OU> (youtube)

<https://sptfy.es/nmp> (spotify)

Put the modal verbs from the list on the right into each of the gaps in the lyrics.
Then put the verb (in brackets) into the correct form.

Then listen to the song to check.

Lyrics

Since he left I must have cried¹ a thousand tears
And now I wonder if his love was sincere

CHORUS

So come with me, we'll dance the night away
An anaesthetic just to numb the pain
'Cause I need to leave² my problems all behind
When the sun comes up I just might see³ the light

I should have told⁴ him about you, to make him see
He might have come⁵ to love me more and stayed with me

But these are all next Monday's problems
And if we dance we can outrun⁶ them

CHORUS

So come with me, we'll dance the night away
An anaesthetic just to numb the pain
'Cause I need to leave⁷ my problems all behind
When the sun comes up I just might see⁸ the light

Could it all have been⁹ my fault that our love died?
He can't have known¹⁰ about the pain I felt inside

But these are all next Monday's problems
And if we dance we can outrun¹¹ them

CHORUS

So come with me, we'll dance the night away
An anaesthetic just to numb the pain
'Cause I need to leave¹² my problems all behind
When the sun comes up I'll finally see the light

Meaning

I have (almost) definitely cried

*it is necessary that I leave / I have to...
maybe I will see*

*it would have been better if I had told him
maybe he would have come*

we will be able to escape them (by running)

*is it possible that it was all my fault that...
it is impossible that he knew*

- How many did you get right? Did you put the verb into the correct form after each modal?
- If you got a modal verb wrong, is the one that you actually chose grammatically possible?
 - What do each of the modal verbs mean?
 - How does the modal verb that you chose change the meaning of the phrase?