

Main uses of modal verb “would”:

1. Used as **“would like”** (=want) in polite requests or offers:

“I’d like to go home now please.”

“We’d like to ask you a few questions.”

“Would you like some coffee?”

Can be used with other verbs to sound more polite:

“I (would) prefer....”

“I (would) recommend....”

“I (would) suggest....”

2. Used as **the past of “will”** in reported speech:

Direct speech = “I will write to you”

Indirect speech = She said that she would write to me.

Direct speech = “Will you please do your homework?”

Indirect speech = The teacher asked us if we would do our homework.

3. Used in **hypothetical or imaginary situations**, or situations that are unlikely to happen:

“If I won 10 million crowns, I would buy a house.”

“What would you do if someone attacked you?”

“It would be much better in Sweden if the sun shone all the time.”

“If I was/were a bird, I would fly around the world.”