



## 27 MAY LEVEL 1

### MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE

- Wentworth: I know times are hard. These days, we are all feeling depressed, awkward and jaded. I think I don't need to remind you of the past events. We have to muster our courage to move on. We must continue moving forward.
- Sarah: Some people may think it is a lack of consideration, that we are numb to the situation. People may view such attitude as a complete disregard of such terrible events.
- Wentworth: Perhaps. But in my opinion, it is the wise thing to do. If I may sum it up, you may forgive but you may not forget. Can you understand? Can someone rephrase?
- Sarah: What I think you are trying to say is that common sense causes you to forgive so you may... It is a possibility. But it may not imply a sense of duty.
- Wentworth: That's right. 'You may not' here is an equivalent to 'must not'
- Sarah: So what you mean to say is that it can be a good think to forgive but to forget is inappropriate.
- Wentworth: Exactly. Let me quote a very sensible saying: 'The stupid neither forgive nor forget, the naïve forgive and forget, and the wise forgive but never forget.'
- Sarah: It makes sense, indeed.



MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE ?	Im my opinion
	wise
These days	if
To feel	To sum up
depressed	To forgive
awkward	forget
jaded	To rephrase
To remind (someone) of something	To try (to DO)
An event	Common sense
past	Cause (someone) to <b>DO</b>
'To muster one's courage'	to imply
To move on	A sense of duty
To continue vING	'that's right'
To move forward	An equivalent (to)
MAY	What + S + v
A lack	To mean
consideration	inappropriate
Numb (to)	To quote
To view	sensible
such	A saying
complete	Neither ... nor
disregard	To make sens
perhaps	indeed



Grammar:

MAY is the modal for probability. In everyday language, we commonly use the adverbs 'maybe' and 'perhaps' to indicate we have no certainty.

The pattern is MAY + v

### 1 / ASSUMPTIONS

We use MAY to make suppositions or assumptions. We believe the action is very possible to happen or 'very likely to' (the probability is 50%).

Example: it may rain / She may not come

### 2/ POLITENESS

MAY as in a question is a polite way to ask. Its direct equivalent is 'CAN'.

Example: May I help you? / May I ask you a question?

### 3/ MAY NOT

You can find 'MAY NOT' in rules. Depending on the context, it can be an assumption, or a more polite and formal way to indicate a ban(=interdiction). In this case, MAY NOT is an equivalent to MUST NOT.

Example: You may not enter this area