

The Passive Form of Modals and Similar Expressions

The Passive Form: modal + be + past participle

Tom	will	be invited	to the picnic.
The window	can't	be opened.	
Children	should	be taught	to respect their elders.
	May I	be excused	from class?
This book	had better	be returned	to the library before Friday
Mary	has to	be told	about the change in plans
This letter	ought to	be sent	before May 22.
Fred	is supposed to	be told	about the meeting.

The Past Passive Form: modal + have been + past participle

The letter	should	have been sent	last week.
This house	must	have been built	over 100 years ago.
Jeff	ought to	have been invited	to the party.

1. James should be told the news as soon as possible. (should + tell)
2. Someone should tell James the news immediately. (should + tell)
3. James should have been told the news a long time ago. (should + tell)
4. Meat _____ in a refrigerator or it will spoil. (must + keep)
5. You _____ meat in a refrigerator or it will spoil. (must + keep)
6. We tried but _____ the window . It was painted shut. (couldn't + open)
7. I tried, but the window _____. (couldn't + open)
8. Good news! I _____ a job soon. I had an interview at an engineering firm yesterday.
(may + offer)
9. Chris has good news. The engineering firm where she had an interview yesterday
_____ her a job soon. (may + offer)

10. I hope Chris accepts our job offer, but I know she's been having interviews with several companies. She _____ a job by a competing firm before we made our offer.
(may + already + offer)
11. A competing firm _____ Chris a job before we made our offer.
(may + already + offer)
12. The class for next semester is too large. It _____ in half, but there's not enough money in the budget to hire another teacher. (ought to + divide)
13. Last semester's class was too large. I _____ in half. (ought to + divide)
14. These books _____ to the library by tomorrow. (have to + return)
15. Polly _____ these books by next Friday. (have to + return)
16. Andy, your chores _____ by the time I get home, including taking out the garbage. Don't worry, Mom. I'll do everything you told me to do. (had better + finish)
17. Andy, you _____ your chores before Mom gets home. I know. I'll do them in a minute. I'm busy right now. (had better + finish)
18. This application _____ to the personnel department soon. (be supposed to + send)
19. Ann's birthday was on the 15th, and now it's already the 8th. Her birthday card _____ a week ago. Maybe we'd better give her a call to wish her a belated happy birthday. (should + send)
20. Ann didn't expect to see her boss at the labor union meeting.
She _____ when she saw him.
She was. (must + surprise)