

Modals & Aspect 4

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(1) kantoa
carry

(2) Jonin kannattaisi syödä kalaa
John.GEN should.3SG eat.INF fish.PART
'John should eat fish'

(2) is good if John should eat the fish in order to make him live longer.

(3) Jonin ei kannattaisi syödä kalaa
John.GEN NEG.3SG should eat.INF fish.PART
'John shouldn't eat the fish'

(3) is good if John shouldn't eat fish because he's allergic. It's bad if John shouldn't eat fish because of arbitrary rules.

(4) Jonin ei pitäisi syödä
John.GEN NEG.3SG supposed-to eat.INF
'John shouldn't eat'

(4) is good under the arbitrary rules reading.

(5) Jonin ei kannattaisi syödä
John.GEN NEG.3SG should eat.INF
'John shouldn't eat'

(5) is good if John is in class and if he eats, he will get in trouble or he won't learn as much.

(6) Jonin ei kannattaisi juoda
John.GEN NEG.3SG should drink.INF
'John shouldn't drink'

(6) is bad if John definitely won't get in trouble if he drinks. Here, Hanna prefers *pitäisi*.

(7) juoppo
'alcoholic'

(8) Jonin pitäisi maksaa
John.GEN supposed-to.3SG pay.INF
'John is supposed to pay'

(8) is ok if he is paying his library fine to make his mom happy. It is not ok if he is required to pay his library fine in order to pass his classes, because *kannattaisi* is too strong. Hanna prefers (9) in this context.

- (9) Jonin täytyy maksaa
John.GEN must.3SG pay.INF
'John must pay'
- (10) Jonin kannattaisi olla maksamassa
John.GEN should COP.INF pay.NMLZ.INESS
'John should be paying'
- (11) sun kannattaisi olla maksamassa
2SG.GEN should COP.INF pay.NMLZ.INESS
'you should be paying'
- (12) Jonin kannattaisi olla syömässä
John.GEN should COP.INF eat.NMLZ.INESS
'John should be eating'
- (13) Jonin ei kannattaisi olla syömässä
John.GEN NEG.3SG should COP.INF eat.NMLZ.INESS
'John should not be eating'

(13) is good if dinner is soon, or if John will get in trouble if he eats.

- (14) Jonin ei olisi kannattanut syödä
John.GEN NEG.3SG COP.?? should.PTCP eat.INF
'John shouldn't have eaten'

(14) is ok if John got in trouble, or if John spoiled his appetite.

- (15) Joni ei olisi saanut syödä
John.NOM NEG.3SG COP.?? get.PTCP eat.INF
'John was not allowed to eat (but he did)'
- (16) Joni ei saanut syödä
John.NOM NEG.3SG get.PTCP eat.INF
'John was not allowed to eat'
- (17) Jonin ei pitänyt syödä
John.GEN NEG.3SG like.PTCP eat.INF
'John decided not to eat'

(17) has two readings: 1) John decided not to eat, but he did. 2) Nobody forced John to eat, although he may have.

- (18) Jonin ei olisi pitänyt syödä
John.GEN NEG.3SG COP.?? like.PTCP eat.INF
'John shouldn't have eaten (but he did)'

(18) has a strong reading. It was very bad for John to eat.

- (19) tänään ei pitänyt sataa
today NEG.3SG like.PTCP rain.INF
'it wasn't supposed to rain'

(19) is ok if the speaker doesn't know whether or not it rained.

- (20) tänään ei pitäisi sataa
today NEG.3SG supposed-to rain.INF
'it wasn't supposed to rain today'

(20) is ok if today isn't over.

- (21) eilen ei olisi pitänyt sataa
yesterday NEG.3SG COP.?? like.PTCP rain.INF
'it wasn't supposed to rain yesterday'

(21) is ok if you don't know whether or not it rained yesterday.

- (22) mä haluaisin syödä
1SG.NOM would-like.1SG eat.INF
'I would like to eat'

- (23) mä en haluaisi syödä
1SG.NOM NEG.1SG would-like eat.INF
'I would not like to eat'

(23) is good if you are not hungry of if you're on a diet.

- (24) mä en halunnut syödä
1SG.NOM NEG.1SG want.PTCP eat.INF
'I don't want to eat'

- (25) en olisi halunnut syödä eilen
NEG.1SG COP.?? want.PTCP eat.INF yesterday
'I didn't want to eat yesterday'

(25) is only good if you actually did eat yesterday.