

# User Requirements

## 22 Translating raw data into **interpreted user requirements**

➔ “**May**” is used to indicate a course of **action permissible**  
(“may” equals “is permitted to”)

➔ “**Can**” is used for statements of **possibility** and **capability**,  
whether material, physical, or causal  
(“can” equals “is able to”)

➔ “shall” or “should” or “may” or “can” 

➔ ~~“must”~~ 

↑  
Mandatory

↑  
Desirable

↑  
Optional

↑  
Possible  
future enhancement

➔ The **active voice** shall be preferred to the passive voice  
(passive voices promotes ambiguity and leads to needlessly complex sentences)

**“Flying aircraft may be hazardous”**

(‘flying’ may act as a noun, an adjective or a verb!)