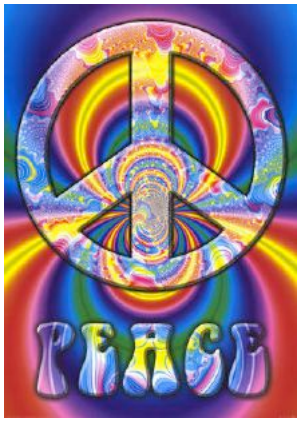
Start a revolution from your bed.

***Activity 1* – Ask the question to your partner and then we will discuss your answers.**



- *Do you think that we **should** all do more on our level to improve problems in society or the world?*
- ***Would** you participate in a protest if you really felt strongly about something?*
- ***Could** you ever see yourself starting a revolution?*
- *Do you think you **might** join a political party or group one day?*

What kind of verbs are these? What do you notice about the way they are used?

Activity Two* - *Modal verbs: should, would, could and might.
Let's read the information about Modal verbs.

1. Certainty:

· *Something is probable*

Example: He <u>should</u> be here soon.

· *There is a possibility*

Example: There <u>might</u> be a protest this weekend.

· *There is a weak possibility*

Example: I <u>could</u> single-handedly change the world.

2. Obligation

· *You are able to*

Example: She <u>could</u> join the revolution if she wants.

· *Recommendation*

Example: You <u>should</u> record this protest with your mobile phone.

3. Permission

· *request*

Example: <u>Would</u> I be able to join in the demonstration?

<u>Could</u> I come too?

4. Hypothetical

Example: I <u>would</u> love to change the world.



Modal verb rule

Modal verb *(would, should, could, might)*	+	Infinitive verb (~~to~~ _____) *(e.g. be, love, have, hate)*

Activity 3 – Fill in the gaps !

In pairs, fill in the gaps in the sentences using :

could might would should

1. I believe in this revolution very strongly, so I ..... join in.

2. You recorded the protest on your mobile phone. You ..... upload it to youtube so everyone can see it.

3. They said they ..... meet us here.

4. I ..... start a revolution from my bed.

5. If she gets involved in the protest, she ..... get arrested by the police.

6. If it was me, I ..... have done that.

7. ..... you follow me on twitter?

8. We believe in the same thing, so we ..... join forces.

Activity 4 – What happened... ?

'You read on facebook that there is a revolution is starting in your country...'



Discuss **three** possibilities of what **could** have happened using :

Might have... Could have...

Activity 5 – read the article

Starting a Revolution from Your Bed: Social Media as a Modern Armory





Though it sounds a bit far-fetched, starting a revolution from your bed is possible. The idea was first used by John Lennon and Yoko Ono to promote peace in the late 60s.

During the Vietnam War, in 1969, John Lennon and Yoko Ono held two week-long **Bed-Ins for Peace** in Amsterdam and Montreal, which were their non-violent ways of protesting wars and promoting peace. Knowing their marriage in 1969 would be a huge press event, John and Yoko decided to use the

publicity to promote world peace. They spent their honeymoon in the presidential suite (Room 902) at the Amsterdam Hilton Hotel, for a week the world's press were invited into their hotel room every day between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.

The Internet played a big role in the idea's revival in the 90s through various websites, but imagine how much larger the idea's following could have been if it was promoted by more modern sites like **Facebook** and **Twitter**.

Social media's role in the 2011 Egyptian revolution

The worldwide attention gained by Egypt's political unrest proves that starting a revolution from your bed is still an achievable feat. Egyptian activists were aware of the government's power to effectively silence their protests. The activists knew that they had to use another means to stand against police brutality: virtual weapons. They used social media sites, like Facebook and Twitter, to keep their fellowmen, as well as the rest of the world, updated on the protests held in the country.

Media were not given a chance to film the violent protests, and their cameras were destroyed by the state. Some precious shots vanished along with burnt recorders. Not all civilians had guns and knives to protect themselves, but instead a great number of them had camera-equipped mobile devices. Unadulterated footage of the demonstrations was captured.

The sickening and alarming YouTube videos, courageous Tweets, and powerful Facebook updates encouraged more people to join the protests. Social media became an effective source of information, of making Egyptians aware of events that were not broadcast on traditional media.

Considering the influence of social media, it's no wonder that the government considered it a threat.

Because of the successful Egyptian revolution, many people from Libya, Yemen, and other Middle Eastern countries under siege are using Facebook and Twitter to disseminate news and information. These social media tools are used to pass information such as basic safety tutorials and sources of food and water. After the 2011 Egyptian revolution, many people became interested in Facebook and Twitter as sources for news.

Truly, what happened to Egypt is a big wake-up call for everyone. Through the power of social media, starting a successful revolution from your bed is indeed possible.

Activity 6 **– *Answer the questions***

1. Find and highlight the modal verbs in the text.
2. Come up with definitions for the underlined phrases.
3. Was there much footage of the protests?
4. Were the Arab protests an example of 'starting a revolution from your bed'? Why / why not ?
5. What are people from Libya, Yemen, and other Middle Eastern countries using social media for ?
6. What did John Lennon do in 1969?
7. What sorts of 'weapons' did protestors equip themselves with during the protests ?
8. How were people encouraged to join the protests ?
9. How did governments feel about social media ?
10. How could **YOU** start a revolution from your bed ?

Activity 7 **– *Song gap fill.***

In 1996, English rock band Oasis referenced Lennon and Ono's Bed-Ins in the band's song 'Don't Look Back in Anger'.

Listen to the song and fill in the gaps.

Anger, heart, might, heard, look, revolution, beside.

Slip inside the eye of your mind
Don't you know you _____ find
A better place to play
You said that you've never been
But all the things that you've seen
They slowly fade away
So I'll start a _____ from my bed
'Cuz you said the brains I had went to my head
Step outside, summertime's in bloom
Stand up beside the fireplace
Take that look from off your face
You ain't ever gonna burn my _____ out
And so, Sally can wait
She knows it's too late as we're walking on by
Her soul slides away
But don't look back in _____
I heard you say
Take me to the place where you go
Where nobody knows
Where nobody knows if it's night or day
Please don't put your life in the hands
Of a rock and roll band
Who'll throw it all away
I'm gonna start a revolution from my bed
'Cuz you said the brains I had went to my head
Step outside, 'cuz summertime's in bloom
Stand up _____ the fireplace
Take that look from off your face
'Cuz you ain't ever gonna burn my heart out
And so, Sally can wait
She knows it's too late as she's walking on by
My soul slides away
But don't look back in anger
I _____ you say
(guitar solo)
So, Sally can wait
She knows it's too late as we're walking on by
Her soul slides away
But don't look back in anger
I heard you say
So, Sally can wait
She knows it's too late as she's walking on by
My soul slides away
But don't look back in anger
Don't _____ back in anger
I heard you say
At least not today.

Activity 8* – *Read the article below about the history of the song 'Don't look back in anger', and answer the questions in full sentences (using modal verbs).

Brothers Noel and Liam Galaggher make up the British band 'Oasis'. Noel admits that certain lines from the _____ ('don't look back in anger') are lifted from John Lennon: "I got this tape in the United States that had apparently been burgled from the Dakota Hotel and someone had found these cassettes. Lennon was starting to record his memoirs on tape. He's going on about "trying to start a _____ from me bed, because they said the brains I had went to my head." I thought 'Thank you, I'll take that'!"

"Revolution from me bed" most likely refers to Lennon's notorious _____ in 1969. The piano in the introduction of the song resembles Lennon's "Imagine", as well as "Watching the Wheels". As Oasis are often criticised for borrowing parts of other artists songs for their own, Noel Gallagher commented on the intro's similarity to "Imagine" saying, "In the case of Don't Look Back in Anger - I mean, the opening piano riff's Imagine. 50% of it's put in there to wind people up, and the other 50% is saying 'look, this is how songs like Don't Look Back in Anger come about - because they're _____ by songs like Imagine'. And no matter what people might think, there will be some 13 year old kid out there who'll read an interview and think 'Imagine? I've never heard that song' and he might go and buy the album, you know what I mean?". Gallagher also admits that he was under the _____ of illegal substances when he wrote the song and to this day he claims he does not know what it means.

1. Fill in the blanks with the following words:
   revolution / influence / song / bed-ins / inspired

2. What two things **could** have influenced the song 'Don't look back in anger'?

3. *Listen to the introduction of Lennon's 'Imagine' – compare the songs.*
   Do you think Noel Galaggher **should** have lifted lines from John Lennon?

4. **Would** you ever be inspired to start a revolution from your bed?

5. Apart from using facebook or twitter, how **could** you start a revolution from your bed?