

What is Modality?

Modality is used in writing to express how definite you are about something.

If you use words that express uncertainty, this is called low modality. If you use words that express certainty, this is called high modality. It is often used in persuasive writing and in discussing a point of view.

Examples of modality include:

Low

sometimes

maybe

might

occasionally

rarely

possibly

perhaps

Medium

often

likely

regularly

scarcely

frequently

probably

usually

High

absolutely

always

certainly

definitely

obviously

surely

clearly