

# UNIT 5

## MODALS: COULD AND MIGHT

### FILL IN THE BLANKS

1.- Choose might OR could in the sentences below to show possibility.

1. John and Amy \_\_\_\_\_ get a new kitten.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ study Japanese next year.
3. Pavel \_\_\_\_\_ try out for hockey next year.
4. Daniel \_\_\_\_\_ not go to school because he's sick.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ she be our new teacher?
6. We \_\_\_\_\_ try this new restaurant tonight.
7. Louise and Pierre \_\_\_\_\_ get married in the spring.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ that be our bus?
9. They \_\_\_\_\_ not be ready to take the test.
10. Isabella \_\_\_\_\_ not join the basketball team this year.

### QUIZ

Find one error in each sentence.

Ex. She might coming to the concert with us.

She might come to the concert with us.

1. If I finish my assignment, I go could home early.
2. Hiro might calls you tomorrow.
3. My teacher could not give us homework to do this weekend. We'll find out on Friday.
4. Could that is a UFO?
5. He might gets a new puppy.
6. We could not go out tonight. We haven't decided yet.
7. They might moving to another city next year.
8. Fatima might takes a year off school to travel around the world.
9. My children coulds be absent from school tomorrow.
10. Francisco isn't in class today. Might he is sick?

## MODALS: SHOULD AND HAD BETTER

**Had better** (I'd better / you'd better etc.)

I'd better do something = it is advisable to do it. If I don't do it, there will be a problem or a danger:

- I have to meet Amy in ten minutes. I'd better go now or I'll be late.
- 'Shall I take an umbrella?' 'Yes, you'd better. It might rain.'

We'd better stop for petrol soon. The tank is almost empty.

The negative is I'd better not (= I had better not):

- 'The jacket looks good on you. Are you going to buy it?' 'I'd better not. It's too expensive.'
- You don't look very well. You'd better not go out tonight.

## Had better and should

Had better is similar to should, but not exactly the same. We use had better only for a specific situation, not for things in general. You can use should in all types of situations to give an opinion or give advice:

- It's late. You'd better go. / You should go. (a specific situation)
- You're always at home. You should go out more often, (in general - not 'had better go')

Also, with had better, there is always a danger or a problem if you don't follow the advice.

Should means only 'it is a good thing to do'. Compare:

- It's a great film. You should go and see it. (but no problem if you don't)
- The film starts at 8.30. You'd better go now or you'll be late.

1.- Read the situations and write sentences with had better or had better not. Use the words in brackets.

1. You're going out for a walk with Tom. It looks as if it might rain. You say to Tom:  
(you/an umbrella)
2. Oliver has just cut himself, it's a bad cut. You say to him:  
(you/put a plaster)
3. You and Kate plan to go to a restaurant this evening. It's a popular restaurant. You say to Kate:  
(we/reserve)
4. Rebecca doesn't look very well this morning - not well enough to go to work. You say to her:  
(you/go to work) .
5. You received your phone bill four weeks ago, but you haven't paid it yet. If you don't pay soon, you could be in trouble. You say to yourself:  
(I/pay)
6. You want to ask your boss something, but he's very busy and you know he doesn't like to be disturbed. You say to a colleague:  
(I/disturb)

2.- Put in had better where suitable. If had better is not suitable, use should.

1. I have an appointment in ten minutes. I \_\_\_\_\_ now or I'll be late.
2. It's a great film. You \_\_\_\_\_ go and see it. You'll really Like it.
3. You \_\_\_\_\_ set your alarm. You'll never wake up on time if you don't.
4. When people are driving, they \_\_\_\_\_ keep their eyes on the road.
5. I'm glad you came to see us. You \_\_\_\_\_ come more often.
6. She'll be upset if we don't invite her to the party, so we \_\_\_\_\_ invite her.
7. These biscuits are delicious. You \_\_\_\_\_ try one.
8. I think everybody \_\_\_\_\_ learn a foreign language.

3.- Complete the sentences. Sometimes you need only one word, sometimes two.

1. I have a toothache. I'd better \_\_\_\_\_ to the dentist.
2. John is expecting you to phone him. You \_\_\_\_\_ better phone him now.
3. 'Shall I leave the window open?' 'No, you'd better \_\_\_\_\_ it.'