

# Should/ Ought to / Had better

We express **advice** with:

**should/ought to**      You should walk more. (general advice; I advise you)

**had better**      You'd better see your dentist. (specific situation; it's a good idea)

We express **criticism** with:

**should/ ought to + perfect infinitive** = It would have been better if you had....

You should have been more polite to him.

1. For each situation, write a sentence with **should** or **shouldn't** and the following:

go to bed so late

take a photograph

go away for a few days

use her car so much

look for another job

put some pictures on the walls

- a) Liz needs a change.
- b) John always has difficulty getting up.
- c) Mary's living room isn't very interesting.
- d) What a beautiful view!
- e) His salary is very low.
- f) Sara drives everywhere. She never walks.

*She should go away for a few days.*  
He.....  
She.....  
You.....  
He.....  
She.....

2. Complete the sentence with **should (have) + the verb** in brackets.

- a) Diana ....**should pass**....(pass) the exam. She has been studying so hard.
- b) You missed a great party last night. You ....**should have come**.....(come).
- c) I am in a difficult position. What do you think I .....(do).
- d) We don't see you enough. You .....(come) and see us more often.
- e) I'm sorry I didn't take your advice. I .....(do) what you said.
- f) We lost the match but we .....(win). We were much better.
- g) The government .....(do) more to reduce crime.
- h) You look tired. You .....(go) to bed and rest.

3. Put in **had better** where suitable. If **had better** is not suitable, use **should**.

- a) When people are driving, they .....keep their eyes on the road.
- b) I have an appointment in ten minutes. I.....go now or I'll be late.
- c) It's a great film. You .....go and see it. You'll love it.
- d) She will be upset if we don't invite her to the wedding, so we.....  
invite her.
- e) I'm glad you came to see us. You .....come more often.
- f) It might rain so I .....take an umbrella.
- g) These biscuits are delicious. You .....try one.
- h) We .....stop for petrol soon. The tank is almost empty.