Giving Advice: Situations

Giving Advice	Example
should	You **should** stay home tonight, you need to recover.
ought to	You **ought to** relax, you have been too stressed lately.
had better	You **had better** find your phone, otherwise we won't be able to contact you.
If I were you,	**If I were you**, I wouldn't go late to bed, you look exhausted!

Notice that '**had better**' can imply a stronger sense of urgency or warning!

Activity 1

Match each situation with the appropriate advice.

Situation	Answer	Advice
1. Your friend loses his wallet.		A. You **had better** talk to them, otherwise they will never stop.
2. Someone is complaining about not finding a job.		B. **If I were you**, I would get a bike and cycle around town.
3. Your friend spend too much time on public transport.		C. You **ought to** report the lost wallet to the police.
4. A colleague can't relax at home because her neighbours are very noisy.		D. You **should** be patient and apply for at least a job position per day.
5. Someone is complaining about not having enough time for herself.		E. You **should** consider selling your old clothes.
6. Your friend spends too much money on clothes.		F. **If I were you**, I would ask for help with some tasks.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Activity 2

There are some sentences that contain some mistakes. Determine whether they are correct or wrong and correct the mistakes when necessary.

1. If I was you, I would try to disconnect and go for a walk.

_____

2. You shouldn't take some time off, you have been working non-stop.

_____

3. You ought work harder, your boss is complaining about your performance.

_____

4. You had better complete this form before Friday, it's very important.

_____

5. If I were you, I try to speak to him. He seems upset!

_____

6. You should do more exercise, it will make you feel better.

_____

Activity 3

Complete the sentences to provide some advice to the given situations.

1. A colleague is having a complicated situation with her boss.
   You **should** _____.
2. A friend isn't feeling motivated about his job.
   If I were you, _____.
3. A friend wants to buy a new car but the one she likes is too expensive for her.
   You **had better** _____.
4. A colleague complains about not having enough time with her partner.
   You **ought to** _____.
5. A relative tells you that he wants to have a healthier diet.
   You **should** _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Activity 4

Read the following conversations and fill in the gaps with an appropriate piece of advice.

Conversation 1

Speaker A: I've been feeling a little bit under the weather lately. Do you think I should take a day off tomorrow?

Speaker B: _____.

Conversation 2

Speaker A: I need to improve my English for my job but I don't have much time to attend lessons. What would you do if you were me?

Speaker B: _____.

Conversation 3

Speaker A: I need to quit smoking but I don't know how to do it! Any recommendations?

Speaker B: _____.

Conversation 4

Speaker A: I have an important appointment at 4:00 p.m. but I need to be at the office by 4:45 p.m. I'm worried that I won't make it on time and I'm not sure what is best to do.

Speaker B: _____.

LIVEWORKSHEETS