

Modals of Advice

Intermediate 1

Strong (+)	- You must start looking for a job. (Strong advice-I'm telling you to do this)
	- You had better start looking for a job. (Advice-otherwise you may regret it)
	- You should / ought to start looking for a job. (Advice)
(-) Less strong	- You could start looking for a job. (This is only a suggestion)

Practice



1. Check (✓) which sentence in the following pairs is stronger.

- A. You should go to the doctor. ()

B. You'd better go to the doctor. ()
- A. Mary should go to work today. ()

B. Mary must go to work today. ()
- A. I have to go to the post office. ()

B. I should go to the post office. ()
- A. We shouldn't go into that room. ()

B. We mustn't go into that room. ()
- A. You'd better not go there alone. ()

B. You shouldn't go there alone. ()

2. Read the following situations, then give advice. Use *should*, *ought to*, *had better* or *must*.

- My twenty-year-old son just stays at home all day watching television!
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- My car always breaks down.
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- I just can't get to sleep these days.
.....
- Since my father retired, he's been feeling bored and lonely.
.....
- I just don't know what to do with my hair. It looks awful!
.....
- I've lost my father's watch and I don't want to tell him!
.....
- I have an important job interview tomorrow and I'm really nervous.
.....
- I want to travel to the UK but I don't know how.
.....

3. Put in should, shouldn't, ought or oughtn't .(Look for the word "to")

Vicky: I can't come out tonight, Rachel. I to do some more work. I'm behind with everything. I've got so much to do.

Rachel: You worry so much, Vicky. Don't panic. You to relax sometimes. You take a break.

Vicky: I know I panic, but I do. I can't help it.

Rachel: Anyway, you're doing OK, aren't' you? Your results have been good.

You be pleased. You to invent problems for yourself.

4. What would you say in these situations? Add a sentence with d'better(not) and the words in brackets.

1. Vicky doesn't feel well. She 's got a headache. What might you say to her? (An aspirin)

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2. You and Daniel are meeting Rachel. You've both arrived, but she isn't there yet. She is usually late. (Wait)

.....

3. Fiona is leaving her bike outside the swimming pool. You know it won't be safe if she leaves it unlocked.(lock)

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4. Nick is giving you a lift in his old sports car. There's a speed limit, and there's a police car behind you. (Too fast)

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