

Modals of Advice

Section A: Spot the Error

Find the mistake in each sentence.

1. He had better to study for his exam.
2. You shouldn't ate so much junk food.
3. Should I to call them and apologize?
4. We had better not to be late for the train.
5. She should listens to her doctor's advice.
6. You should to told him the truth sooner.

Section B: Give Your Advice

Write a sentence of advice for each situation using the modal in parentheses.

1. Your friend wants to get in shape.

2. Your coworker is going to be late for a very important meeting with the CEO.

3. Your neighbor's music is too loud late at night, and you have to wake up early.

4. Someone is visiting your city for the first time and wants recommendations for things to see.

5. Your friend left their wallet in a taxi. (had better)

Modals of Advice Cheat Sheet

Modal	Strength / Formality	Positive Example	Negative Example	Ask for Advice?
should	General Advice (Most Common)	You should get more rest.	You shouldn't worry so much.	Yes (e.g., "Should I apply?")
ought to	Formal / Moral Duty	We ought to respect our elders.	She ought not to speak so rudely. (Rare)	No (Use "should")
had better	Strong Advice / Warning	You had better be on time.	You had better not be late.	No (Use "should")