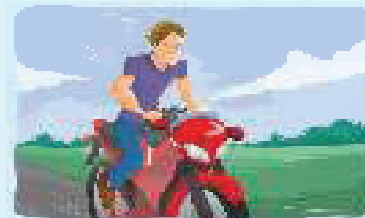


A

You **should do** something = it is a good thing to do or the right thing to do.

You can use **should** to give advice or to give an opinion:

- ☐ You look tired. You **should go** to bed.
- ☐ The government **should do** more to improve schools.
- ☐ A: **Should** we **invite** Stephanie to the party?
B: Yes, I think we **should**.
- ☐ The man on the motorbike **should be wearing** a helmet.



You **shouldn't** do something = it isn't a good thing to do:

- ☐ You **shouldn't believe** everything you read in newspapers.

We often use **should** with **I think** / **I don't think** / **Do you think ...?**:

- ☐ **I think** the government **should do** more to improve schools.
- ☐ **I don't think** you **should work** so hard.
- ☐ A: **Do you think** I **should apply** for this job?
B: Yes, **I think** you **should**.

Should is not as strong as **must** or **have to**:

- ☐ You **should** apologise. (= it would be a good thing to do)
- ☐ You **must** apologise. / You **have to** apologise. (= you have no alternative)

B

We use **should** when something is not right or what we expect:

- ☐ Where's Tina? She **should be** here by now.
(= she isn't here yet, and this is not normal)
- ☐ The price on this packet is wrong. It **should be** £2.50, not £3.50.

We also use **should** to say that we expect something to happen:

- ☐ Helen has been studying hard for the exam, so she **should pass**.
(= I expect her to pass)
- ☐ There are plenty of hotels in the town. It **shouldn't be** hard to find a place to stay.
(= I don't expect it to be hard)

C

You **should have done** something = you didn't do it, but it would have been a good thing to do:

- ☐ You missed a great party last night. You **should have come**. Why didn't you?
(= you didn't come, but it would have been good to come)
- ☐ I wonder why they're so late. They **should have been** here long ago.

You **shouldn't have done** something = you did it, but it wasn't a good thing to do:

- ☐ I'm feeling sick. I **shouldn't have eaten** so much. (= I ate too much)
- ☐ She **shouldn't have been listening** to our conversation. It was private.
(= she was listening)

Compare **should** (do) and **should have** (done):

- ☐ You look tired. You **should go** to bed now.
- ☐ You went to bed very late last night. You **should have gone** to bed earlier.

D

ought to ...

You can use **ought to** instead of **should** in the sentences on this page.

We say 'ought to do' (with **to**):

- ☐ Do you think I **ought to apply** for this job? (= Do you think I **should apply** ...?)
- ☐ Jack **ought not to go** to bed so late. (= Jack **shouldn't go** ...)
- ☐ It was a great party last night. You **ought to have come**. (= You **should have come**)

Exercises

33.1 For each situation, write a sentence with **should** or **shouldn't** + one of the following:

~~go away for a few days~~ stay up so late look for another job
put some pictures on the walls take a picture worry so much

- 1 Anna needs a change. She should go away for a few days.
- 2 Your salary is very low. You
- 3 Jack always finds it hard to get up. He
- 4 What a beautiful view! You
- 5 Laura is always anxious. She
- 6 Dan's room isn't very nice.

33.2 Complete the sentences. Choose from:

should solve **should be working OK** **shouldn't cost more** **shouldn't take long**
should receive ~~should pass the exam~~ **should be much warmer** **should be here soon**

- 1 Helen has been studying hard, so she should pass the exam.
- 2 Joe hasn't arrived yet, but he
- 3 The TV has been repaired. It now.
- 4 It to get to the hotel. About 20 minutes.
- 5 I sent the documents to you today, so you them tomorrow.
- 6 The weather is unusually cold. It at this time of year.
- 7 The best way to get to the airport is by taxi. It than ten pounds.
- 8 If you have a problem with the computer, try restarting it. That the problem.

33.3 Complete the sentences. Use **should ...** or **should have ...** + the verb in brackets.

- 1 You look tired. You should go to bed. (go)
- 2 You missed a great party last night. You should have come. (come)
- 3 I'm in a difficult position. What do you think I now? (do)
- 4 I'm sorry that I didn't take your advice. I what you said. (do)
- 5 We lost the game, but we were the better team. We (win)
- 6 We don't see you enough. You and see us more often. (come)
- 7 We went the wrong way and got lost. We right, not left. (turn)
- 8 My exam results weren't good. I better. (do)

33.4 Read the situations and write sentences with **should** / **should have** / **shouldn't** / **shouldn't have**.

- 1 I'm feeling sick. I ate too much.
I shouldn't have eaten so much.
- 2 When we got to the restaurant, there were no free tables. We hadn't reserved one.
We
- 3 Laura told me her address, but I didn't write it down. Now I can't remember the house number.
I
- 4 The shop is open every day from 8.30. It is 9 o'clock now, but the shop isn't open yet.
.....
- 5 I was looking at my phone. I wasn't looking where I was going. I walked into a wall.
.....
- 6 Kate is driving. The speed limit is 30 miles an hour, but Kate is doing 50.
She
- 7 I wasn't feeling well yesterday, but I went to work. That was a mistake. Now I feel worse.
.....
- 8 Tomorrow there is a football match between Team A and Team B. Team A are much better.
.....
- 9 I was driving. The car in front stopped suddenly and I drove into it. It wasn't my fault.
The driver in front