

MODALS OF ADVICE AND WARNING

Look at the pictures. What problem do you think they represent?

What advice (suggestion, recommendation) would you give to these angry neighbors?



In English we use the modals *should* and *ought to* to advise/recommend. And we use *had/'d better* for warning. The difference is actually the seriousness expressed in the suggestion.

Look at the sentences with modal verbs in the table below and give similar examples of advice and warning for the people in the pictures above.

It is not an exercise, you can practice but it is not necessary to send.

Modal	Use	Affirmative	Negative	Question
Should + base form	Advice /recommendation	You <i>should</i> <u>talk</u> to them seriously. _____	You <i>shouldn't</i> <u>play</u> music too loud. _____	<i>Should</i> I <u>call</u> the police? _____
Ought to + base form	Advice/ recommendation	They <i>ought to</i> <u>turn down</u> the volume. _____		
'd better + base form	Warning	You <i>'d better</i> <u>tell</u> them about the problem. _____	You <i>'d better not</i> <u>have</u> parties too frequently. _____	

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Exercise adapted from Open Mind 2, 2010, Macmillan, p. 51.

Read this text. Identify examples of the structures given previously (*should/shouldn't, ought to, 'd better/'d better not*).

Problem	Advice
<p data-bbox="272 730 799 808">1. My parents hate all my music. What should I do?</p> <p data-bbox="272 954 799 1066">2. I listen to a lot of music at home, so I want to buy a better sound system.</p> <p data-bbox="272 1144 799 1223">3. I love loud music, but my neighbors complain!</p>	<p data-bbox="874 730 1401 842">a) You shouldn't bother your neighbors. You'd better use headphones for loud music.</p> <p data-bbox="874 920 1401 1066">b) They ought to listen to some of your music. You should explain why you think the music is good.</p> <p data-bbox="874 1111 1401 1223">c) Then you'd better not buy a cheap brand. Buy Sony® if you can.</p>