



Auxiliary verbs

Can

Modal Verbs

Could

General ability (present)

- I can speak English.

Ask for permission (informal)

- Can I borrow your pen please?

To request something

- Can you help me please?

Possibility

- It can get very cold there at night.

Offer to help someone

- Can I carry your bags for you?

Cannot (can't) = not allowed

- You cannot smoke in this room.
- You can't go to the party.

General ability

- I could play the piano.

Ask for permission

- Could I use your bag?

To request something

- Could you pass me the salt?

Possibility in the past

- What? You could have done that!

Suggestion (with 'if')

- We could go to the cinema.

Conditional of ability

- If we had some oranges, we could make some fresh juice. (= we can't)

Auxiliary verbs

Modal Verbs

May - Might

شاید/کيداي شي

Uses of **May** and **Might**:

Possibility

- It **might** rain later so take an umbrella.

Give permission

- You **may** have another cookie if you like.

Ask for permission

- **May** I borrow your pen please?

Express wishes

- **May** the New Year bring you happiness.

Speculate about past actions

- She is late. She **may** have missed her plane.

May or Might?

May and **Might** can normally be interchanged without a significant difference in meaning. However, **Might** often implies a smaller chance of something happening (when expressing possibility).

- It **may** rain. (70% chance)

- It **might** rain. (40% chance)

When expressing wishes or giving permission, only **May** is used.

Auxiliary verbs

Modal Verbs

Should

باید

Uses of **Should**:

Advice or Suggestion

- Your hair is too long. You **should** get a haircut.

Situation likely in the present

- Mary **should** be at home now. Give her a call.

Likely in the future (prediction)

- They **should** win tonight, they're a better team.

Should + have + past participle

Meaning: The subject did not fulfill their obligation in the past or did not act responsibly.

- You **should have given** your boss the report yesterday when he asked for it.

Should + be + verb-ing

Meaning: The subject is not fulfilling their obligation now or is not acting sensibly.

- You **should be wearing** your seatbelt.
- We **should be studying** for the test right now.

SHOULD vs. OUGHT TO

Should can be replaced by **ought to** without a change in meaning.

- You **ought to** study more. =
- You **should** study more.

Note: **ought to** sounds more formal than **should** and is used less frequently.

We use **SHOULDN'T** to advise **not** to do something, usually because it is bad or wrong.

- You **shouldn't** throw your litter onto the street.
- He **shouldn't** play with those wires if he doesn't know what he is doing.
- You **shouldn't** work so much

Auxiliary verbs

MODAL VERBS: WILL & WOULD

WILL	WOULD
Request informal Will you lend me your book?	Request polite Would you study with me?
Refusal present/future (negative form) I won't do your work.	Refusal past (negative form) She wouldn't help me yesterday.
Offer present/future I'll watch your children today.	Offer past (*would* + present perfect) I would have helped you.
Conditional first conditional If he asks me, I'll help him.	Conditional second conditional If I had more money, I would buy a car. third conditional If I had studied, I would have passed.
Future I will visit Spain next month.	Future in the past He said that he would help us move next week.



Auxiliary verbs

SHOULD

USE: We use **should** every time we want to give an advice or an opinion

FORMATION: **should/shouldn't** + simple verb

EXAMPLES: + Your grades aren't very good. You should study harder.
- You shouldn't talk so much during the classes.



OUGHT TO

USE: We can use **ought to** instead of **should** to give an **advice** or an **opinion**.

FORMATION: **ought to/ought not to** + simple verb

EXAMPLES: + You ought to study harder.
- You ought not to talk so much.



HAD BETTER

USE: We use **had better** when it's advisable to do something. If you don't, there will be a problem or a danger.

FORMATION: **had better/had better not** + simple verb

EXAMPLES: + I'd better study for the test or I'll fail.
- I'd better not meet my friends today.



Auxiliary verbs

Had better



Had better do something

The meaning of **had better** ('d better) is quite similar to 'should.'

'**I'd better do something**' = *I should do something or it is advisable for me to do something; if I don't do this, something bad might happen:*

- You'd better **take** care of that cut on your hand.
- I have to meet Tom in ten minutes. I'd better **go** now or I'll be late.
- 'Shall I take an umbrella?' 'Yes, you'd better. It might rain.'
- We've almost run out of petrol. We'd better **stop** at the next petrol station to fill up.

Notice the structure:

I had better go now = I'd better go now (not 'to go')

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