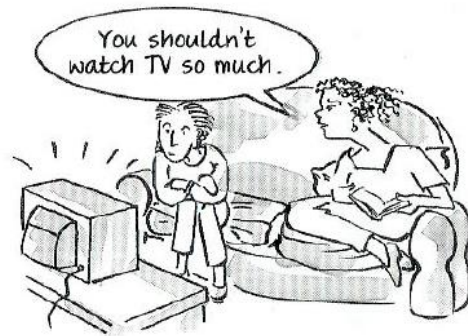


# SHOULD/NEED

## should

**A**



**should + infinitive (should do / should watch etc.):**

I/we/you/they he/she/it	should shouldn't	do stop go watch etc.
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**B**

(You) **should** do something = it is a good thing to do, it is the right thing to do:

- Tom **should go** to bed earlier. He goes to bed very late and he's always tired.
- It's a good film. You **should go** and see it.
- When you play tennis, you **should** always **watch** the ball.

**C**

(You) **shouldn't** do something = it is *not* a good thing to do. **Shouldn't** = should not:

- Tom **shouldn't go** to bed so late.
- You watch TV all the time. You **shouldn't watch** TV so much.

Exercise 1. Complete the sentences. Use **you should + one of these verbs**:

**Clean go take visit watch wear**

1. When you play tennis, you **should watch** the ball.
2. It's late and you are very tired. You **should go** to bed.
3. You should **clean your teeth** twice a day.
4. If you have time, you **should visit** the Science Museum. It is very interesting.
5. When you are driving, you **should wear** a seat belt.
6. It is too far to walk from here, we **should take** a taxi.

Exercise 2:

Write about the people in the pictures. Use **He/She shouldn't ... so ...**



1 She **shouldn't watch TV so much.**

2 He .....

3 ..... hard.

4 .....

Exercise 3:

Write sentences with **I think ... should ...** or **I don't think ... should ...**.

- 1 It's late. (go home now) I think we should go home now.
- 2 That coat is too big for you. (buy it) I don't think you should buy it.
- 3 You don't need your car. (sell it) .....
- 4 Diane needs a rest. (have a holiday) .....
- 5 Sally and Colin are too young. (get married) .....
- 6 You're not well this morning. (go to work) .....
- 7 James isn't well today. (go to the doctor) .....
- 8 The hotel is too expensive for us. (stay there) .....

## need

**needn't** (= need not)

I **needn't** (do something) = it is *not necessary* to do it, I don't need to do it:

- I **needn't clean** the windows. They aren't very dirty.
- You **needn't go** to the bank today. I can give you some money.

You can also say **don't need to ...** (= needn't):

- I **don't need to clean** the windows.
- You **don't need to go** to the bank today.

Compare **needn't** and **mustn't**:

- You **needn't** go. You can stay here if you want.
- You **mustn't** go. You must stay here.

Exercise 4: Choose the most appropriate modal verbs.

1. Nancy \_\_\_\_\_ go to bed early; tomorrow is her day off.  
a. can't  
b. **needn't**
2. You \_\_\_\_\_ do it now; you can finish it later.  
a. can't  
b. **needn't**
3. Students \_\_\_\_\_ use their mobile phones during the lessons.  
a. **shouldn't**  
b. need
4. You \_\_\_\_\_ buy any meat. There is plenty of it in the fridge.  
a. **needn't**  
b. can't

5. You \_\_\_\_\_ bring a swim suit. I can lend you one.  
a. needn't  
b. can't
6. It's a secret. You \_\_\_\_\_ tell anybody.  
a. shouldn't  
b. needn't
7. You \_\_\_\_\_ do the washing up; we have a dishwasher.  
a. can't  
b. needn't
8. You really \_\_\_\_\_ be late again.  
a. shouldn't  
b. needn't
9. You \_\_\_\_\_ drink at all if you plan to drive.  
a. needn't  
b. shouldn't

**exercise 5. Choose the right modal verb from the list below:**

- needn't
- need
- needn't
- could
- can
- can't
- shouldn't

1. There are plenty of tomatoes in the fridge. You **needn't** buy any.
2. I **could** speak Arabic fluently when I was a child and we lived in Morocco. But after we moved back to Canada, I had very little exposure to the language and forgot almost everything I knew as a child. Now, I **can** just say a few things in the language.
3. The teacher said we **could** read this book for our own pleasure as it is optional. But we **needn't** read it if we don't want to.
4. **Can** you stand on your head for more than a minute? No, I **can't**.
5. If you want to learn to speak English fluently, you **need** to work hard.
6. You **shouldn't** leave small objects lying around.
7. You **needn't** take your umbrella. It is not raining.
8. **Can** you speak Italian? No, I **can't**.