UNIT 53 Modals: *Shall / Should*

Shall and **should** are modal verbs that are usually used to ask and give instructions, advice and suggestions.

A
Shall is used in questions with the first person singular and plural.
Shall I / Shall we + base form of verb

It is used to:

- Ask what needs doing, ask for instructions.

  'Shall I take a bus?' 'Yes, a number 32.'
  'What shall I buy?' 'Get some cheese.'

- offer to do something that we think may be useful / helpful.

  'Are you cold? Shall I get you a pullover?' 'No, thanks. I'm all right.'
  'Shall I close the door?' 'Yes, please do.'

- make suggestions.

  'Where shall we go tonight?' 'Let's go to the pub.'
  'What time shall we meet?' 'Let's meet at three o'clock.'
  'Shall we meet at the bus station?' 'All right.'

  In the previous examples, it is also possible to use **should**. This use is more common in spoken American English.

  Should I take a bus? / What should I buy? / Should I close the door? / Where should we go tonight?

B
Should (all forms)

Affirmative	**Negative**
I / You / He / She / It / We / They / Should	I / You / He / She / It / We / They should not (shouldn't)

Interrogative	**Negative questions**
Should I / you / he / she / it / we / they…?	Shouldn't I / you / he / she / it / we / they…?

It is used to:

- give or ask for advice.

  You should arrive earlier tomorrow if you want to get a better seat.
  You shouldn't drink alcohol. It's bad for your health.
  'Should I go for it?' 'Yes, I think you should.'

- say what you believe is the right thing to do.

  We should recycle glass and paper and we shouldn't waste water or electricity.

- make an assumption, i.e. say that something is probable based on the evidence (see p. 164C.)

  He left a long time ago. He should be there by now.
  Look at the map. It shouldn't be far.

In formal English, **should** can also be used in **that**- clauses after the following verbs: **advise, insist, propose, recommend, suggest** and a few others.

They insisted (that) I should have dinner with them.
I suggest (that) we should cook something light.

Student's notes .....

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EXERCISES

Modal: *Shall / Should* **UNIT 53**

NAME: student code **DATE:** / /

LEVEL: CEFRL **TIME:** –

53.1 Change the sentences into the questions to ask for instructions or to offer to do something. Use *Shall I / we…?*

1 I'll take my umbrella when I go to school .....
2 I'll catch the bus if they clear the now. .....
3 We'll come if it doesn't rain. .....
4 I'll buy some winter clothes tomorrow. .....
5 We'll go to the beach if the weather changes. .....
6 I'll bring you some boots for when it snows. .....

53.2 Read the answers and write questions with *shall*. Use *I* or *we* and the words in the box.

Where	When	~~What~~	Which	How	Who

1 (I) .....
You can bring some juice and biscuits to the party.
2 (we) .....
You can get there at three o'clock.
3 (I) .....
Wear the woollen coat, not the raincoat.
4 (we) .....
You can take the 29 bus to get to my house.
5 (I) .....
You can ask Peter to go to the dance with you.
6 (we) .....
You can meet me in front of the cinema.

53.3 Rearrange the words and write questions with *should.*

1 I – party – wear – to – What – the – should – ?
.....
2 we – problem – When – about – the – tell – should – him – ?
.....
3 us – we – our – bring – clothes – with – sports – Should – ?
.....
4 when – What – say – I – I – him – meet – should – ?
.....
5 the – lend – ask – Should – her – I – money – to – me – ?
.....
6 you – were – for – wait – if – Where – rains – should – it – ?
.....

53.4 Write recommendations and assumptions with *should / shouldn't.*

1 Mick / smoke (advice) .....
2 Linda / get to work late (advice) .....
3 Jimmy / take more exercise (advice) .....
4 Don left for London at six o'clock. It's nine o'clock now. The journey takes two hours. (supposition) Don .....
5 There was ice on the road this morning and it was difficult to drive. The ice has melted now. (supposition) Driving .....
6 There was no snow on the slopes. It's snowed for three days. You think you can go skiing now. (supposition) The slopes .....

Teacher's observations