



# Learn English Through Stories

T Series

Test 14

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<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>

## Modal Auxiliaries

### 1. Choose the correct modal auxiliary in each sentence.

1. It's raining, and you **may** / **might** not play outside.
2. His father **should** / **may** not believe him blindly.
3. Don't send the e-mail out, because I **might** / **must** change my mind.
4. **Would** / **Should** we leave the clothes to dry outside?
5. If they rehearsed more often, they **may** / **would** become a good rock band.
6. He **can** / **may** play basketball really well, and he's a good student as well.
7. No one **can** / **must** play the drums better than John.
8. The hurricane **should** / **could** cause a lot of damage if it hits the coast.
9. They **may** / **must** go hiking tomorrow if the weather is nice.
10. You **could** / **should** not play with knives or guns.

### 2. Complete each sentence with an appropriate phrase.

EXAMPLE: You must *learn to respect your elders*.

1. He can..... .
2. She would .....
3. I should .....
4. You ought to..... .
5. He had better..... .
6. May I..... ?
7. Can you please..... ?
8. Why must that man..... ?

### 3. Complete each sentence with either must or should.

EXAMPLE: They **should** buy organic fruit, because it's healthier.

1. We..... go to India for our spring vacation.
2. If you want to become a lawyer, you..... go to law school.
3. A child..... drink at least three glasses of milk a day.
4. A person..... eat a balanced diet.
5. A person.....eat in order to live.
6. According to my academic advisor, I..... take another history course.
7. I..... pay my bills online tonight, but I think I'll wait and do it in the morning.
8. Everyone..... have a goal in life.
9. You..... have a passport issued before you can leave the country.
10. Wheat..... have plenty of sun in order to grow.
11. If the car is locked, you .....use a key to open it.
12. I .....go to work, but I don't feel well. I think I'll stay home.
13. I just missed the last bus, so I..... walk home.
14. If you don't know how to pronounce a word, you..... ask a native speaker of English to pronounce it for you.
15. This cake is very good. You..... try a piece.
16. This cake is excellent! You..... try a piece!

### 4. For each pair of sentences, select the one that is stronger in meaning or shows greater obligation.

1. a. You'd better not go out there alone.  
b. You shouldn't go out there alone.
2. a. She shouldn't go into that room.  
b. She must not go into that room.

- 3. a. I should call the police.  
b. I have to call the police.
- 4. a. They must go to class.  
b. They ought to go to class.
- 5. a. You should go to the doctor.  
b. You had better go to the doctor.
- 6. a. He has to go to work.  
b. He ought to go to work.

**5. Respond to each sentence, using the past form should have or should not have.**

EXAMPLE: You forgot to set your alarm clock, because you fell asleep on the couch.

*I shouldn't have fallen asleep on the couch.*

- 1. You didn't do your exercises, because you went to a movie.
- 2. You failed the exam, because you didn't study.
- 3. You didn't read the chapter, because you played video games instead.
- 4. You misspelled a word, because you didn't look it up in the dictionary.
- 5. The room is full of mosquitoes, because you left the window open.
- 6. It's warm in here, because you turned off the fan.
- 7. You're poor, because you spent all your money while you were on vacation.
- 8. You can't make dinner, because you didn't go grocery shopping.
- 9. You are cold, because you left your coat at home.
- 10. You can't look her in the eye, because you lied to her.
- 11. You didn't have coffee this morning. You're feeling very sleepy.
- 12. You have a stomach-ache, because you ate all the ice cream.

## Answers

### 1. Choose the correct modal auxiliary in each sentence.

1. It's raining, and you **may** not play outside.
2. His father **should** not believe him blindly.  
Or: His father **may** not believe him blindly.
3. Don't send the e-mail out, because I **might** change my mind.
4. **Should** we leave the clothes to dry outside?
5. If they rehearsed more often, they **would** become a good rock band.
6. He **can** play basketball really well, and he's a good student as well.
7. No one **can** play the drums better than John.
8. The hurricane **could** cause a lot of damage if it hits the coast.
9. They **may** go hiking tomorrow if the weather is nice.
10. You **should** not play with knives or guns.

### 2. Complete each sentence with an appropriate phrase.

Answers may vary.

1. He can answer the question however hard it is.
2. She would rather spend than save.
3. I should do more exercise and eat less fatty food.
4. I ought to have come earlier. I deeply regret.
5. I had better hit the road if I'm to be back home before dark. .
6. May I stop by for a visit tomorrow?
7. Can you please turn down that radio, it's getting on my nerves?
8. Why must that man drink so much — it's not healthy?

**3. Complete each sentence with either must or should.**

EXAMPLE: They **should** buy organic fruit, because it's healthier.

1. We **should** go to India for our spring vacation.
2. If you want to become a lawyer, you **must** go to law school.
3. A child **should** drink at least three glasses of milk a day.
4. A person **should** eat a balanced diet.
5. A person **must** eat in order to live.
6. According to my academic advisor, I **must** take another history course.
7. I **should** pay my bills online tonight, but I think I'll wait and do it in the morning.
8. Everyone **should** have a goal in life.
9. You **must** have a passport issued before you can leave the country.
10. Wheat **must** have plenty of sun in order to grow.
11. If the car is locked, you **must** use a key to open it.
12. I **should** go to work, but I don't feel well. I think I'll stay home.
13. I just missed the last bus, so I **must** walk home.
14. If you don't know how to pronounce a word, you **should** ask a native speaker of English to pronounce it for you.
15. This cake is very good. You **should** try a piece.
16. This cake is excellent! You **must** try a piece!

**4. For each pair of sentences, select the one that is stronger in meaning or shows greater obligation.**

1. a. You'd better not go out there alone.
2. b. She must not go into that room.
3. b. I have to call the police.
4. a. They must go to class.

5. b. You had better go to the doctor.

6. a. He has to go to work.

**5. Respond to each sentence, using the past form should have or should not have.**

EXAMPLE: You forgot to set your alarm clock, because you fell asleep on the couch.

*I shouldn't have fallen asleep on the couch.*

1. You didn't do your exercises, because you went to a movie.

I shouldn't have gone to a movie.

2. You failed the exam, because you didn't study.

I should have studied.

3. You didn't read the chapter, because you played video games instead.

I shouldn't have played video games.

4. You misspelled a word, because you didn't look it up in the dictionary.

I should have looked it up in the dictionary.

5. The room is full of mosquitoes, because you left the window open.

I shouldn't have left the window open.

6. It's warm in here, because you turned off the fan.

I shouldn't have turned off the fan.

7. You're poor, because you spent all your money while you were on vacation.

I shouldn't have spent all my money while I was on vacation.

8. You can't make dinner, because you didn't go grocery shopping.

I should have gone grocery shopping.

9. You are cold, because you left your coat at home.

I shouldn't have left my coat at home.

10. You can't look her in the eye, because you lied to her.

I shouldn't have lied to her.

11. You didn't have coffee this morning. You're feeling very sleepy.

I should have had coffee this morning.

12. You have a stomach-ache, because you ate all the ice cream.

I shouldn't have eaten all the ice cream.