Modal Verbs

Advice



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You should visit me more often.

SHOULD

You shouldn't work so much.

past

You should have told me you'd be late to work.

He shouldn't have quit his job.

OUGHT TO

semi-modal verb

* sometimes implies moral obligation

* usually not used in the negative

You ought to be nicer to your brother.

HAD BETTER

semi-modal (compound) verb * often implies some sort of consequence if action is not followed

- You'd better pay back the money you owe.
- You had better not park your car illegally.
- She'd better not miss any more classes.