

Criticism (Should/Ought)



The owners **shouldn't have left/ought not to have left** the window unlocked.

◆ **should/ought + perfect infinitive = it would have been better if you had ...**  
**We use these structures to criticise someone else's actions.**  
 e.g. You **should have come/ought to have come** to me for help. (But you didn't.)

**10** Fill in *shall* or *will*.

- 1 A: ...*Shall*... I help you with the washing-up?  
B: No, I can manage by myself.
- 2 A: ..... we have pizza for dinner tonight?  
B: I'd rather have steak.
- 3 A: ..... you carry this for me, please?  
B: Certainly. It looks heavy.
- 4 A: What ..... we buy for Bob's birthday?  
B: I think he'd like a book.
- 5 A: ..... you answer the phone, please?  
B: Of course.
- 6 A: Where ..... we sit in the classroom?  
B: Next to the window.
- 7 A: ..... you take the rubbish outside for me, please?  
B: Yes, in a minute.
- 8 A: ..... we have a barbecue next weekend?  
B: Yes, if the weather's fine.
- 9 A: ..... you babysit for me tonight?  
B: I'm sorry, but I can't.
- 10 A: ..... we try this new recipe tonight?  
B: Yes. We've got all the ingredients.

**11** Read the situations and complete the sentences with *should/shouldn't, ought to/ought not to* and the correct tense of the infinitive.

- 1 Your friend didn't see a film on TV last night. You saw it and it was very good.  
You ...*should/ought to have seen*... (see) the film.

- 2 Liz bought an expensive jacket yesterday and now she hasn't got enough money for the rest of the week.  
She ..... (buy) such an expensive jacket.
- 3 Your sister eats a lot of junk food which is bad for her health.  
You ..... (eat) so much junk food.
- 4 Mr Jackson had a stiff back. He lifted some heavy boxes and now his back is worse.  
He ..... (lift) those heavy boxes.
- 5 Tony always drives too fast. Yesterday, he was arrested for speeding.  
He ..... (drive) more slowly.
- 6 Sally is clumsy. She is always breaking things.  
She ..... (be) more careful.
- 7 Paul didn't do his homework. The teacher punished him.  
He ..... (do) his homework.
- 8 Amy borrowed her brother's car without asking. He was very angry.  
She ..... (borrow) his car without asking.

**12** Underline the correct word(s) in bold.

- 1 A: I found a briefcase on the train.  
B: You **ought to/can** take it to the police station as soon as possible.
- 2 A: Did you get some money from the bank?  
B: No, I **didn't need to/needn't**. I had enough in my wallet.
- 3 A: Sorry I'm late again.  
B: You **should/might** wear a watch.
- 4 A: **Couldn't/May** I speak to Claire, please?  
B: Just a moment, please. I'll call her.
- 5 A: We **could/must** go out for a meal this evening, if you like.  
B: Oh, yes. That would be nice.
- 6 A: I wonder if Paul and Jim have got lost.  
B: They **can't/mustn't** have got lost because I gave them a map.
- 7 A: **Could/Would** I use your telephone, please?  
B: Yes, of course.
- 8 A: Was the exam very difficult?  
B: Yes, but I **can/was able to** answer all the questions.
- 9 A: We **mustn't/needn't** go shopping this week. We've got plenty of food.  
B: Alright. We'll go next week instead.
- 10 A: **Should/May** I sit down, please?  
B: Yes, of course. Make yourself at home.
- 11 A: When **will/shall** I visit you next?  
B: You **can/must** call in tomorrow, if you like.
- 12 A: Helen should be here by now.  
B: She **ought to/could** have missed the train.