

# Shall *and* Should

A modal auxiliary verb is used to modify the mood of a verb. Here is a list of the modal auxiliary verbs:

|           |           |                     |            |              |                     |         |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|---------|
| Can-Could | May-Might | <b>Shall-Should</b> | Will-Would | Must-Have to | Ought to-Had better | Used to |
|-----------|-----------|---------------------|------------|--------------|---------------------|---------|

**Shall:** “**Shall**” is to express a future action. It is different than “will” in that it is used to express an order or prophecy. The negative of shall is “**shall not**” or the contraction “**shan’t**”.

Example: I shall become a doctor.

In this example “**shall**” is used to express the prophecy of me becoming a doctor in the future.

Example: Tomorrow, you shall climb to the top of Mt. Everest.

In this example “**shall**” is used to order or command a future action.

Directions: Make your own sentences using “**shall**”.

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

**Should:** “**Should**” is used to express the ideal (best) action which happens in the past, present, or future. The negative of should is “**should not**” or the contraction “**shouldn’t**”.

Example: I think I should make chicken for dinner tonight.

In this example “**should**” is used to express that making chicken is the best future action.

Example: I should get paid more for the hard work that I do.

In this example “**should**” is used to express that it would be ideal for me to get paid more for my present action.

Directions: Circle the correct auxiliary modal verb in each sentence.

**Example:** When you grow up, you (shall) should be a great football player.

- 1) Mom thinks you (should, shall) clean your room.
- 2) Trains (shall, should) go faster.
- 3) This weekend (should, shall) be the best weekend ever!
- 4) I (should, shall) be a writer when I get older.
- 5) Police (shan't, shouldn't) be allowed to drive so fast.
- 6) Our team (should, shall) have tried harder.
- 7) After you are finished washing my car, you (shall, should) get me something to eat.
- 8) (Shall, Should) we be ready by ten?
- 9) If we want to make money, we (should, shall) get a job.
- 10) The world (should, shall) be peaceful.

Directions: Now make your own sentences using “**should**”.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_