

Modals: may, might, can, could, should, would, shall, will, must, need, used to, ought to.

- Verb 1 after modal auxiliaries: may do, might do, could do, should do, etc.
- Verb 3 after modals+have: may have done, could have done, would have done, etc.

Possibility

**** may, might and could**

We use **may, might and could** to say that something is **possible**, but not certain:

*They **may come** by car. (= Maybe they will come by car.)*

*They **might be** at home. (= Maybe they are at home.)*

*If we don't hurry, we **could be** late. (= Maybe we will be late.)*

**** may have, might have or could have**

We use **may have, might have** or could have to *make guesses about the past*:

I might have left the door unlocked. (আমি হয়তো দরজাটি আনলক অবস্থায় রেখে এসেছি)

It's ten o'clock. They **might have arrived** by now. (তারা হয়তো এতক্ষণে এসে পড়েছে)

'Could have'-- didn't do despite having the ability or opportunity

- However, we generally use **could have** to say that someone had the ability or opportunity to do something, but did not do it:

*She **could have done** it, but she didn't want to.* (সে এটি করতে পারতো, কিন্তু করতে চায়নি)

*They **could have watched** TV all night, but they didn't.* (তারা সারারাত টিভি দেখতে পারত, কিন্তু দেখেনি)

We use **can** to make **general statements** about what is possible:

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*It **can be** very cold here in winter.* (= It is sometimes very cold here in winter.)

*You **can** easily **get** lost in this town.* (= People often get lost in this town.)

We also use **could** to **make general statements about the past**:

*It **could be** very cold there in winter.* (= It was sometimes very cold there in winter.)

*You **could** easily **get** lost in that town.* (= People often got lost in that town.)

Expressions with *would*

We use:

- **would you..., do/would you mind (not) - ing** for requests:

(Would you carry this for me, please?)

Do you mind helping me with cooking?

কিছু মনে না করলে আমাকে রান্নায় হেল্প করবেন?

Would you mind helping me with cooking?

কিছু মনে না করলে আমাকে রান্নায় হেল্প করবেন?

Would you mind not telling him until tomorrow?

- **would you like ..., would you like to ...** for offers and invitations:

(would you like= do you want)

Would you like another drink? (আপনি কি আরেকটা ড্রিংক চান?/আপনার কি আরেকটি ড্রিংক লাগবে?)

Would you like to come round tomorrow?

আপনি কি আগামীকাল (বেড়াতে) আসবেন?

- **I would like ..., I'd like ... (you)(to) ...** to say what we want or what we want to do:

I'd like that one, please.

I'd like to go home now.

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- **I would say, I would think, I would imagine, I'd guess** to give an opinion when we are not sure or when we want to be polite:

It's very difficult, I would imagine.

I would think that's the right answer.

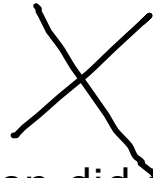
==Past habits – 'used to', 'would' and the past simple

(করতাম, যেতাম, খেতাম, এরকম বাক্য গঠনে)

Used to + *infinitive*

We can use used to to talk about past states that are not true any more.

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We used to live in New York when I was a kid.

There didn't use to be a supermarket there. When did it open?

Did you use to have a garden?

We can also use used to to talk about past habits (repeated past actions) that don't happen any more.

I used to go swimming every Thursday when I was at school. (আমি স্কুলে থাকতে প্রত্যেক বৃহস্পতিবারে সাঁতার কাটতে যেতাম)

She used to smoke but she gave up a few years ago. (সে আগে ধূমপান করত কিন্তু কয়েক বছর আগে ছেড়ে দিয়েছে)

used to + infinitive should not be confused with be/get used to + -ing, which has a different meaning. The difference is covered [here](#).

Would

We can use would to talk about repeated past actions that don't happen any more.

Every Saturday I would go on a long drive. (আমি প্রত্যেক শনিবারে লংড্রাইভে যেতাম)

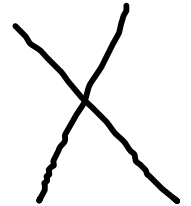
My dad would read me amazing stories every night at bedtime.

would for past habits is slightly more formal than used to. It is often used in stories. We don't normally use the negative or question form of would for past habits. Note that we can't usually use would to talk about past states.

Past simple

We can always use the past simple as an alternative to used to or would to talk about past states or habits. The main difference is that the past simple doesn't emphasise the repeated or continuous nature of the action or situation. Also, the past simple doesn't make it so clear that the thing is no longer true.

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We went to the same beach every summer.

We used to go to the same beach every summer.

We would go to the same beach every summer.

**** Should vs Ought to:**

What is desired or ideal

We use *ought to* and *should* when talking about things which are desired or ideal (উচিত অর্থে):

We **should** eat lots of fruit and vegetables.

আমাদের প্রচুর ফল ও শাকসবজি খাওয়া উচিত

We **ought to** eat lots of fruit and vegetables.

আমাদের প্রচুর ফল ও শাকসবজি খাওয়া উচিত

We use 'ought to have done' and 'should have done' form to talk about things that were desired or ideal in the past but which didn't happen (উচিত ছিল অর্থে):

We ought to have locked the gate.

আমাদের গেট লক করা উচিত ছিলো

We should have locked the gate.

আমাদের গেট লক করা উচিত ছিলো

I ought to have studied medicine not pharmacy.

I should have studied medicine not pharmacy.

== What is likely or was supposed to happen ('সম্ভাবনা/হওয়ার কথা বা হওয়ার কথা ছিল' বুঝাতে)

We can use *ought to* when we talk about what is likely or probable:

If he started out at 9, he **ought to** be here by now.

If he started out at 9, he **should** be here by now.

***=Ought to or should?**

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Ought to and *should* are similar in meaning. *Should* is more common than *ought to*. *Ought to* is more formal than *should*.

Spoken English:

In speaking, we normally use *should* as a tag for clauses with *ought to*:

There **ought to** be a speed limit here, **shouldn't** there? (preferred to There *ought to* be a speed limit here, *oughtn't* there?)

We **ought not to** have to pay for basic medicines, **should** we? (preferred to *We ought not to have to pay for basic medicines, ought we?*)

Negative

The negative is formed by adding 'not' after *ought* (*ought not to*). It can be contracted to *oughtn't to*. We don't use *don't*, *doesn't*, *didn't* with *ought to*:

| We **ought not to** have ordered so much food.

| You **oughtn't to** have said that about his mother.

The negative of *ought to* is not common. We usually use *shouldn't* or *should not* instead:

| You **shouldn't** speak to your father like that. (preferred to *You oughtn't to speak ...*)

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Questions

The subject and *ought to* change position to form questions. We don't use *do*, *does*, *did*:

| **Ought she to** call the police?

| **Ought we to** be more worried about the environment?

Warning:

The question form of *ought to* is not very common. It is very formal. We usually use *should* instead.