

Auxiliary verbs

HSK 3 Grammar

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance.

/ (should, ought to)

■ Advice differs from a prediction

- A tired friend asks what to do, and you suggest rest.
- – expresses advice or an obligation in this conversation.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is / (should, ought to). Locate it in the original interlinear examples below.
- Keep the words in their demonstrated positions; the pattern must fit the intended situation as well as the sentence form.

nǐ yīng gāi duō xiū xi

Word guide: – you; – should; – more; – rest.

■ Read examples in context

gāi zǒu le

Word guide: – should; – go.

- In the opening example, : expresses advice or an obligation in this conversation.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- can also express expectation: means he should have arrived by now.
- Negate advice with or ; meaning depends on whether the speaker recommends or predicts.

■ Use the distinction

- expresses advice or an obligation in this conversation.
- can also express expectation: means he should have arrived by now. Negate advice with or ; meaning depends on whether the speaker recommends or predicts.

■ Try it with help closed

A tired friend asks what to do, and you suggest rest. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

One possible response:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- can also express expectation: means he should have arrived by now.
- Negate advice with or ; meaning depends on whether the speaker recommends or predicts.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.