Advisability And Obligation In The Past

#### **FOCUSED PRACTICE**

# 1

#### DISCOVER THE GRAMMAR

Read each numbered statement. Then choose the sentence (a or b) that best describes the situation.

- 1. I shouldn't have called him.
  - (a) I called him.
  - b. I didn't call him.
- 2. My parents ought to have moved away from that neighborhood.
  - a. They're going to move, but they're not sure when.
  - 6 Moving was a good idea, but they didn't do it.
- 3. I should have told them what I thought.
  - a, I didn't tell them, and now I regret it.
  - b. I told them, and that was a big mistake.
- 4. We could have told you that movie was no good.
  - (a) We didn't know you were planning to go, so we didn't tell you.
  - b. We haven't seen the movie yet, so we can't tell you about it.
- 5. He might have warned us about the traffic.
  - a. He didn't know, so he couldn't tell us.
  - (b) He knew, but he didn't tell us.
- 6. Felicia could have been a vice president by now.
  - (a) Felicia didn't become a vice president.
  - b. Felicia is a vice president.
- 7. I ought to have practiced more.
  - a. I practiced enough.
  - **b** I didn't practice enough.
- 8. They shouldn't have lent him their car.
  - a. They refused to lend him their car.
  - **b** They lent him their car.

#### 2 ETHICS DISCUSSION

A class is discussing an ethical question. Complete the discussion with the correct form of the verbs in parentheses or short answers. Choose between affirmative and negative.

Problem: Greg, a college student, worked successfully for a clothing store for a year. He spent most of his salary on books and tuition: One week he wanted some extra money to buy a sweater to wear to a party. He asked for a raise, but his boss refused. The same week, Greg discovered an extra sweater in a shipment he was unpacking. It was very stylish and just his size. Greg "borrowed" it for the weekend and then brought it back. His bass found out and fired him

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TEACHER:	Should	Greg's boss	have given	him a raise?
	Yes, he should h			
	year. His boss should			
STUDENT B:	But maybe his boss of	ouldn't afford a ra	ise. Anyway, Greg	still
	nouldn't have take			
TEACHER:	What should	he <u>have</u>	o dane 5. (should / do)	instead?
STUDENT C:	He might have A	sked his boss to	sell him the sweat	ter. Then he
	Could bave pay	for it slowly, or	ıt of his salary.	
STUDENT A:	He ought to have	warn his old clot	hes to the party. A	new sweater just
	wasn't worth all this			
TEACHER:	Well, should	Greg's bo	ss have fire	<u>/</u> him?
STUDENT B:	No, he shouldn't	HAVE Greg h	ad been a good er	mployee for a year.
	And he did bring the	sweater back.		
TEACHER:	How should	he	Should / handle)	the situation?
STUDENT C:	He ought to have	ward him. He s	houldn't have	just
	13. (should / fire)	him without a	ny warning.	*
3	GRETA REGRETS			
	ings Greta is complain		all the things she r	regrets about the past,
	odals in parentheses. C			
1. I didn't	go to college. Now I'n	n unhappy with my	/ job.	
(should	) _I should have gone t	co college.		5 Fr 10 Person
	ther quit a good job, a im. How inconsiderate		I knew it was a m	nistake, but I didn't
(might)	I might have	warned him.	11	
3. I feel si	ck. I ate all the chocol	ate.		
(should	1) I shouldn't	have eaten	Hem.	s

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4. Christina didn't come over. She didn't even call.

(might) She might have called.

5. I didn't have enough money to buy the shirt. Why didn't Ed offer to lend me some?

(could) He could have lend me some money

6. I jogged five miles yesterday, and now, I'm exhausted.

(should) I shouldn't have jogged 5 miles

7. The supermarket charged me for the plastic bag. They used to be free.

(should) They shouldn't have charged me for the plastic bag.

8. I didn't do the laundry yesterday, so I don't have any clean socks. Everyone else gets their laundry done on time. Why can't I?

(ought to) I ought to have done the laundry.

9. I didn't invite Cynthia to the party. Now she's angry at me.

(should) I should have invited her to the party.

10. Yesterday was my birthday, and my brother didn't send me a card. I'm hurt.

(might) He might have sent me a card.

### 4 EDITING

Read this journal entry. Find and correct six mistakes in the use of modals. The first mistake is already corrected.



December 15

About a week ago, Jennifer was late for work again, and Doug, our boss, told me he wanted to get rid of her. I was really upset. Of course, Jennifer shouldn't had been late so often, but he might has talked to her about the problem before he decided to let her go. Then he told me to make her job difficult for her so that she would quit. I just pretended I didn't hear him. What a mistake! I ought a have confronted him right away. Or I could at least have warned Jennifer. Anyway, Jennifer is still here, but now I'm worried about my own job. Should I of told his boss? I wonder. Maybe I should have handle things differently last week. The company should never has hired this guy.



Unit 8

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#### **COMMUNICATION PRACTICE**

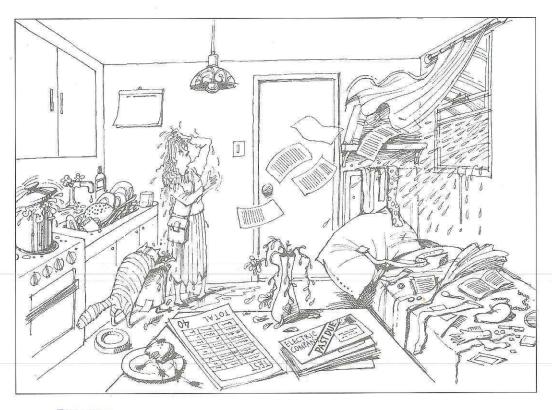
5 LISTENING

Jennifer is taking some of Dr. David Burns's advice by recording all the things she regrets at the end of the day. Listen to her recording. Then listen again and check the things she did.

	To Do
	Homework
	Walk to work
	Make \$100 bank deposit
V	Buy coat
	Call Aunt Rose
V	Call Ron
	Go to supermarket
	Finish David Burns's book

### 6 WHAT A MESS!

Work with a partner. Look at the picture of Jennifer's apartment. What should she have done? What shouldn't she have done? Write as many sentences as you can in five minutes. When you are done, compare your answers with those of your classmates.



#### **EXAMPLE:**

She should have paid the electric bill.

