Modals – *should, ought to, shouldn’t and had better*

1 Choose the correct word to complete each sentence.

1 You *should/shouldn’t* try and get enough sleep.
2 You *should/shouldn’t* worry. It isn’t good for you.
3 You *ought to/shouldn’t* keep your friends waiting.
4 You *ought to/shouldn’t* concentrate on what you’re doing.
5 You *should/shouldn’t* drink plenty of water.
6 You *had better/ought to* apologise to your mother immediately.

2 Match the questions (a-f) below with the sentences (1-6) in exercise 1.

   a I get very thirsty when I’m in the gym. What should I do?
   b I shouted at my mother today and now I’m sorry. What should I do?
   c I keep making mistakes with my homework. What should I do?
   d I’m always tired and sometimes I fall asleep in school. What should I do?
   e My friends are angry because I’m often late. What should I do?
   f I’ve got an important exam but I feel very nervous. What should I do?

   RICK: Hi Matt! What’s wrong?
   MATT: I’m being bullied at school. What *1* _________ I do?
   RICK: You *2* _________ go and tell a teacher.
   MATT: But what if he doesn’t listen to me?
   RICK: You really *3* _________ worry. You need to say something or he might not stop.

   CINDY: I know you like Ben. When are you going to tell him?
   ALICE: I don’t know. I’m too shy. What do you think I *4* _________ do?
   CINDY: Well, you *5* _________ tell him now before he goes out with someone else.
   ALICE: What if he says ‘No’ to me?
   CINDY: You *6* _________ worry about that.

   STELLA: Hey! You *7* _________ do that. You’ll get into trouble.
   STELLA: Don’t worry. You *8* _________ concentrate on what you have to do.

3 Complete the short dialogues with the words in the box. Use each word only once.

A

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**RICK:** Hi Matt! What’s wrong?
**MATT:** I’m being bullied at school. What *1* _________ I do?
**RICK:** You *2* _________ go and tell a teacher.
**MATT:** But what if he doesn’t listen to me?
**RICK:** You really *3* _________ worry. You need to say something or he might not stop.

B

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**CINDY:** I know you like Ben. When are you going to tell him?
**ALICE:** I don’t know. I’m too shy. What do you think I *4* _________ do?
**CINDY:** Well, you *5* _________ tell him now before he goes out with someone else.
**ALICE:** What if he says ‘No’ to me?
**CINDY:** You *6* _________ worry about that.

C

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**ED:** Hey! You *7* _________ do that. You’ll get into trouble.
**STELLA:** Don’t worry. You *8* _________ concentrate on what you have to do.