



## POLITE ENGLISH FREE ON-LINE COURSE

### Lesson 2:

## *Giving advice*

version without a key

## WARM UP

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**THINK**

→ Do you like giving advice?

→ Do you often ask for advice?



**WATCH OUT!**

Do you know the difference between:

**ADVICE** /əd'vaɪs/

and

**ADVISE** /əd'vaɪz/

Which word is a verb and which one is a noun?

- suggestions about what you think someone should do or how they should do something (a noun)
- to make a suggestion about what you think someone should do or how they should do something (a verb)

Answer:

- suggestions about what you think someone should do or how they should do **something** (a noun) - **ADVICE**
- to make a suggestion about what you think someone should do or how they should do **something** (a verb) - **ADVISE**



## THINGS TO REMEMBER

### NEVER SAY:

Can you give me **AN ADVICE**, please?

**Advice is an uncountable noun, so:**

- it is never used in the plural
- it never comes after an or a number

✗ Naomi Wolf gave me ~~a good advice~~ in her book.

✓ Naomi Wolf gave me some good advice in her book.

✗ They were always there to give practical ~~advices~~.

✓ They were always there to give practical advice.

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**Q:** *How can I refer to a single item of advice, rather than to advice in general?*

**A:** Advice is mostly used on its own or with some.

- ✓ If you're worried about it, contact your doctor for advice.
- ✓ I think you should get some advice from a professional.

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You can also say a word of advice, a piece of advice, or (informally) a bit of advice. But none of these expressions is common.

**Don't confuse advice (a noun) and advise (a verb):**

- ✗ I would **advise** you to choose this company.
- ✓ I would advise you to choose this company.

**Source:** [http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/advice#advice\\_3](http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/advice#advice_3)



## USEFUL PHRASES FOR GIVING ADVICE

The most popular way of giving advice is by using the modal verb: **“should”**. However we can also use other different phrases or expressions and words.

Match the phrases or words with the construction that is used afterwards.

1.	should		to do something
2.	had better		I would do something
3.	ought		do something
4.	how about		do something
5.	why don't you		doing something
6.	if I were you		do something



### Examples of the structures above in context.

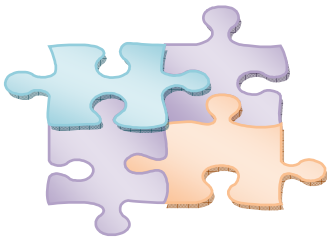
- If you want to study French, you **should start learning** it right now.
- If you want to lose weight, you **shouldn't eat** so much chocolate.
- You **ought to drink** less alcohol.
- **Why don't you come jogging** with me?
- **How about going** to the cinema.
- If I were you, **I would stop** smoking.
- You'd better start learning now, if you have an exam tomorrow.



## SPEAKING

**Practise the words and phrases in the situations below:**

1. Your friend wants to lose weight.
2. Your colleague is not happy with his workplace.
3. Your best friend is not happy with her job.
4. Your sister doesn't know if she wants to buy a house or a flat.
5. Your son wants to study languages.



**Imagine you are in business situation and you would like to give advice in a more polite way than just saying: you should or you ought to.**

**How can you make the phrases more polite so you sound more diplomatic and gentle?**

**Look at the ideas below:**

Next time, you might want to think about (not) . . .	You might want to consider ...
You might want to ...	You might like to think about ...
Have you thought about ...	Well, If I were you, next time I would (not) . . .
Have you considered ...?	You could try ....
Did you consider (not) . . . ?	The way I see it, you probably should (not) have . . .
In your position, I would ...	You could ...
You could perhaps think about ...	What I would do is ...
If you ask me, it probably would have been better (not) to have . . .	



## SPEAKING

Practice the polite expressions by using the phrases above.  
Try to soften your advice.

1. Your new colleague is often late for work. You know your boss doesn't like it. You would like to give your colleague advice so he or she doesn't come late. Try to sound nice and diplomatic.

2. Your colleague has prepared a new logo for a new project. It is in red. You know that your manager hates this colour. Try to give your colleague advice so he changes the colour of the logo. Try to sound as diplomatic as possible.

3. Your colleague didn't prepare a report for your manager. You are aware that this is a very important report. Try to remind your colleague about it and tell him / her in a nice way to do it as soon as possible in order to avoid unpleasant consequences.



## INTERNET SEARCH

Search in the Internet for other polite ways of giving and asking for advice.

Check this website:

<https://www.englishclub.com/vocabulary/fl-giving-advice.htm>



## WATCHING and LISTENING

Watch the film and remember the structure:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6zNc7I0bi4>