⮊ *SHOULD* AND *THE SUBJUNCTIVE*   
AFTER CERTAIN VERBS, NOUNS, AND ADJECTIVES

**Should** and **the Subjunctive** can be used after:

 verbs such as: **advise, demand, insist, order, propose (= suggest), recommend, request, suggest, etc.**

 nouns such as: **advice, demand, order, proposal, recommendation, request, suggestion, etc.**

 adjectives such as: **important, vital, essential, imperative, necessary, etc.**

When you report orders, suggestions, advice, etc., you can use a “that-clause” with **should** or **the Subjunctive** form after reporting verbs and nouns with similar meanings. **The Subjunctive** and **should** are appropriate in *formal written English*.

1. The Subjunctive is the same whether the sentence is present or past .

❖ I *suggest* that he ***should apply***/***shouldn’t apply*** for the job. (Should)

I *suggest* that he ***apply***/***not apply*** for the job. (Subjunctive)

There is *an order* that all firearms ***should be handed in*.** (*Should*)

There is *an order* that all firearms ***be handed in*.** (*Subjunctive*)

❖ I *suggested* that he (***should*) *apply***/(***should*) *not apply*** *for the job*.

The police gave *an* *order* that all firearms **(*should*) *be handed in***.

2. You can also use **should** or sometimes **the** **Subjunctive** in a “that-clause” *after It is* / *was vital*, *it is* / *was important*, etc.

*It is* / *was vital* that no one else ***should get involved*** in this affair. (*Should*)

*It is* / *was vital* that no one else ***get involved*** in this affair. (*Subjunctive*)

In ordinary talk, structures other than the Subjunctive and “should” are preferred. With the verbs listed below these are *infinitive clauses or* -*ing clauses*.

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| **Verb** | ***That*-clause** | ***To*-infinitive Сlause**  (with or without object) | **-*ing* Сlause** |
| **advise** | that... (should) | smb + *to*-infinitive | -ing |
| **demand** | that... (should) | *to*-infinitive (usu. passive) | – |
| **insist** | that... (should) | – | on (smb / smb’s) -ing |
| **Verb** | ***That*-clause** | ***To*-infinitive Сlause**  (with or without object) | **-*ing* Сlause** |
| **order** | that... (should) | smb + *to*-infinitive  smth + *to*-infinitive (passive) | – |
| **propose**  **(= suggest)** | that... (should) | – | -ing |
| **recommend** | that... (should) | smb + *to*-infinitive | -ing |
| **request** | that... (should) | smb + *to*-infinitive | – |
| **suggest** | that... (should) | – | (smb / smb’s) -ing |

Ex. 37. Study the use of the forms in *that*-clauses.

A.

1. Peter the Great **demanded** that people round him **share** his lust for learning.

2. The police made a few routine inquiries, came up with nothing, and then **suggested** that she **hire** a detective.

3. The teaching staff **requested** that the head teacher **should reconsider** his decision.

4. Doctors **recommend** that all children **should be immunized** against measles.

5. I **propose** that we **wait** until the budget has been announced before committing ourselves to any expenditure.

6. It’s almost certain that Tiberius **ordered** that his adopted son Germanicus **be** secretly **poisoned**.

7. I **suggest** that you **follow** a simple rule: never ask anyone anything about his or her life that you are not prepared to reveal about your own.

8. The Wilsons **insisted** that there **be** no inaugural ball; they retired to the White House for a quiet family evening before going to bed at “a reasonable hour”.

9. The hotel doctor **advised** that Mr. Henderson **should** **be** **visited** by a specialist first thing in the morning.

10. It was **proposed** that the matter **be considered** at the next meeting.

11. At the inquiry the judge **recommended** that the safety procedures **be** thoroughly **updated**.

12. Mobile phones are very popular with young people and have obvious attractions for personal security and keeping in touch with others. However, the research does show that using mobile phones affects brain activity. The expert group has therefore **recommended** that the widespread use of mobile phones by children under 16 **should** **be** **discouraged** for non-essential calls. In the light of this recommendation the UK Chief Medical Officers strongly **advise** that where children and young people do use mobile phones, they **should be encouraged** to use them for essential purposes only and keep all calls short.

B.

1. There was anger at the government’s **proposal** that unemployment benefit **should be reduced**.

2. He ignored my **advice** that he **should sell** his shares.

3. The Afghan representatives at the meeting made **a demand** that part of the international trade agreement **be changed**.

4. The jury followed the judge’s **recommendation** that he **should take into account** the extenuating (смягчающие) circumstances.

5. They didn’t like my **suggestion** that we **should** all **share** the cost.

6. General Scott gave **orders** that only those closest to him **should have** access to this information.

7. **A** **suggestion** was made that we **appoint** an assistant to help Mr. Clark.

8. He ignored the neighbours’ **request** that he **should make** less noise.

9. The Department of Defense has issued strict **orders** that no one **should enter** the area without permission.

10. The Cabinet’s final **recommendation** is that the Government **create** a Sustainable Energy Policy Unit and start a public debate.

Ex. 38. Complete the sentences using *that*-clauses.

1. She demanded \_\_\_\_\_ the book he borrowed from her. (he, return)

2. He requested \_\_\_\_\_ on Friday. (the next meeting, hold)

3. They demanded \_\_\_\_\_ from office. (the president, remove)

4. The teacher insisted \_\_\_\_\_ quietly on his own. (everybody in the group, work)

5. The captain ordered \_\_\_\_\_ the parade. (all his officers, attend)

6. It was unwise of you to propose \_\_\_\_\_ early retirement. (the director, take)

7. The committee has recommended \_\_\_\_\_. (the training programme, improve)

8. The chairman suggested \_\_\_\_\_ again the following day. (the two sides, meet)

9. I recommend \_\_\_\_\_ because they are harmful to the environment (pesticides, not use)

10. I just went into the shop, handed over the dress, and demanded \_\_\_\_\_ me a refund. (they, give)

11. I suggested to her \_\_\_\_\_ to the disco. (we, go).

12. The letter politely requested \_\_\_\_\_ for interview the next day. ( Ms Willis, present herself)

13. There has been an angry reaction to the proposal \_\_\_\_\_ to the area. (the UN peace-keeping force, send)

14. Mr. Craddock, the family solicitor, suggested \_\_\_\_\_ into his office to discuss her late husband’s will. (Ruth, drop)

Ex. 39. Use the correct form of the verb in brackets.

1. It is **essential** that our prices (remain) competitive.

2. It’s absolutely **vital** that you (get) this form sent off by the twenty-third of this month.

3. It’s **essential** that the rich countries (change) their consumption habits.

4. It was **imperative** that you (not see) her.

5. The husband said it was **important** that his wife (have) her own career.

6. It’s **imperative** that we (improve) the physical protection and accounting of nuclear materials.

7. It’s not **necessary** that the construction following the colon (be) a complete clause. It can be a phrase or even a single word.

8. It was **important** that he (go) to an Ivy League university.

9. If your sister wants to get into a good university, it is **essential** that she (have) a good academic record.

10. If you really don’t want to go to Italy, it’s **important** that you (tell) her before she books the tickets.

11. It’s **essential** that we (try) to conserve what is left of the natural habitat before it is too late.

Ex. 40. Paraphrase the italicized words using *should* or *the subjunctive*.

1. I suggest *waiting* a while before we make any firm decision.(we).

2. Commanders ordered *their men to avoid retribution* (возмездие), but there have been reports of looting (грабежи) and execution of prisoners.

3. President Bush advised *Americans to help* the country by doing more volunteering.

4. I suggested *putting the matter* to the committee to hear what they’ve got to say.

5. Realising that the student had deceived her, the teacher demanded *to be told* the whole truth.

6. The soldiers had been given orders *to protect civilians* and *avoid unnecessary destruction*.

7. Doctors advise *against putting a thermometer* into your child’s mouth because it may cause him to choke.

8. I wanted to pay by check, but the landlady insisted on *my paying* her in cash.

9. The officer ordered *the men to fire* the arms.

10. I’d advise *waiting* till the proper time. (you)

11. They’re insisting *on our reporting* the matter to the police right away.

12. Caligula ordered *his sister’s name to be included* with his whenever an oath was taken or a prayer spoken.

13. He proposed *dealing* directly with the suppliers. (they)

PURPOSE CLAUSES INTRODUCED BY *SO THAT*

**Purpose clauses** answer the questions: What for? For what purpose?

They can be introduced by the conjunctions **so that** or **in order that**. (*In order that* is formal and is not commonly used).

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| **Tense of Main Clause** | **Modal Verbs  in Purpose Clauses** | **Example** |
| FUTURE  PRESENT | **will / can**  **won’t / can’t** | I will help my brother train ***so that*** *he* ***will*** *win the race*.  She keeps to a diet ***so that*** *she* ***can*** *lose weight*. |
| PAST | **would / could**  **wouldn’t / couldn’t** | I helped my brother train ***so that*** *he* ***would*** *win the race*.  She kept to a diet ***so that*** *she* ***could*** *lose weight*. |

Note: May and might / should are sometimes used, but are not common.

e.g. We stepped aside *in order that* / *so that she might pass*.

He was wearing a false beard *so that we shouldn’t recognize him*.

Ex. 42. Study the use of modal verbs in purpose clauses.

1. I want my books to be as cheap as possible **so that** many people **can** afford to buy them.

2. Gorilla hunters captured the animals **so that** they **could** be sent to live in zoos.

3. Long ago, people worshipped the sun as a god. They would offer prayers and gifts to their sun god **so that** he **would** always be pleased and always shine his light upon them.

4. She drew the curtains **so that** the neighbours **wouldn’t** see them.

5. In China, since one-child policy began in 1979, there have undoubtedly been many cases of female infanticide (that is, secretly murdering girl babies) **so** **that** the mother **can** try again for a boy.

6. He had got into the way of sitting with his chin slightly thrust out **so that** the wrinkles in his neck **should not** show.

7. For me it’s worthwhile paying extra to travel by train just **so that** I **can** avoid all the hassles of driving.

8. She gave parties **so that** the young actors **might** get to know the manager.

9. She often goes hungry herself **so that** her children **can** have enough to eat.

10. “Above all, Remembrance Day is about giving thanks to those who risked everything **so that** we **can** continue to know the blessings of freedom,” said Mr. Chrétien.

11. I warned her you’d be late **so that** she **wouldn’t** start worrying.

12. The rebels and the opposition parties formed a coalition **so that** they **could** defeat the government.

13. The police are waiting for him to regain consciousness **so that** they **can** question him about the attack.

14. I deliberately didn’t have lunch **so that** I **would** be hungry tonight.

15. We will continue dialogue and discussions about ABM treaty **so that** we **may** be able to develop a new strategic framework that enables both of us to meet the true threats of the 21st century as partners and friends, not as adversaries.

16. An immobilizer is a device fitted to a car which stops it from moving **so that** it **cannot** be stolen. Some immobilizers not only shut off the engine if someone attempts to steal the car, they also immobilize the doors **so that** the car thief **can’t** escape.

17. They carefully closed the window and the door **so that** not a breath of night air **should** creep into the bedroom and I made up my bed on the verandah **so that** I **could** get a good view of the horses.

Ex. 43. Complete the sentences with purpose clauses.

1. Tom wanted to take her to supper \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (they, dance).

2. In Japan, they are considering adopting English as a second official language \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Japan, compete internationally in the 21st century).

3. If someone lies in ambush they hide and wait for someone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (they, attack them).

4. When they got to the hotel Michael came to Julia’s room \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (they, talk in peace and quiet).

5. She’s studying English at night school \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (she, go to university).

6. My uncle lifted me onto his shoulders \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (I, see over the people’s heads).

7. Quarantine is a period of time during which a person or animal that might have a disease is kept away from other people or animals \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the disease, not spread).

8. The multinational timber companies often make roads deep into the forests \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (they, drag the logs away).