

ought to vs. had better



Ought to and *had better* both express the ideal, best action.

- *Ought to* expresses a greater level of obligation than *should*. The negative of *ought to* is *ought not* or *oughtn't*.
- *Had better* is a little less formal than *ought to*.

DIRECTIONS: Fill in the blank with, *ought to*, *had better*, *could* or *should*, given the context of the sentence.

1. You _____ help your parents more as they get older.
2. I _____ not leave my dirty socks lying around.
3. My sister _____ start dressing more responsibly.
4. If you do a budget, you _____ resolve your financial problems.
5. I _____ get a better job. I am capable of more than this.
6. You _____ enjoy the sunshine before it starts raining.
7. We _____ rest before hiking any further.
8. You _____ read more instead of watching television.