

# Use of could, should, would?

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Learning English grammar could get a bit confusing at times. However, as said by a smart man, "Practice makes one perfect"! Just like in the case of mathematics, grammar too needs the special touch of practice. This article aims at focusing on those auxiliary verbs that could have you completely confused and baffled. Remember the fact, 'Know more, do more' and focus on those points that puzzles you the most.



# Auxiliary Verbs (Could, Would, Should)

The terms 'could', 'would' and 'should' are auxiliary verbs, which mean their main function is to assist and complement the main verbs. These words individually could be termed as the past tenses of 'can', 'will' and 'shall' respectively. A fact is that even individuals that have a profound know-how of grammar get baffled at times when it comes to confusing auxiliaries like these. Therefore, it is crucial to be able to differentiate between the three so as to avoid using them incorrectly. To ensure you use these words in appropriate places, here are a few examples to help you understand the same better.



Simple Examples Of 'would', 'could' And 'should':

#### Would-

#### To ask questions:

- 1. Would you attend his wedding ceremony this evening?
- 2. How would she react according to you?

You also need to know that the word 'would' is more or less interchangeable with the word 'will'.

## To make requests:

- 1. I would like if you could get me a few more slices of bread.
- 2. Would you please hand me that phone?

## To talk about the past:

- 1. I would have helped you out, if I knew you were in trouble.
- 2. Things would have been different if Rita was present at the party.

#### Should-

# To ask questions:

- 1. Should I contribute my share right way?
- 2. Do you think we should wear traditional outfits on Diwali?

# To show obligation:

- 1. You should floss regularly to maintain dental hygiene.
- 2. English grammar is a subject that should be practiced more often.

# To express what is likely:

- 1. Take the main road that should reach you faster than the highway I believe.
- 2. The subway should be empty today.

#### Could-

#### To ask questions:

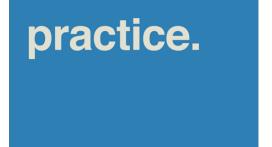
- 1. Could I take a few more hours before sending you the article?
- 2. What could possibly be the reason behind her not working on her English communication skills?

## To show possibility:

- 1.He is so talented; I feel he could do a lot better.
- 2.Clean the house fast, they could land up unannounced.

# To express politeness:

- 1. That's not necessary, I could be wrong!
- 2. I could have overreacted at that moment, I'm sorry.



Learning is acquiring! Strap on your thinking cap and get into the learning process. The English language does get confusing at times, however, you can develop a grasp over it with maximum practice and concentration. Also, try and

understand the fact that English is all about grammar and so to get a complete holistic understanding of this language, you need to <u>learn English</u> grammar to the optimum. The better your grammar, the better your spoken English communication skills. Happy learning folks!

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# - By Monika Agarwal

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