


SHOULD

Variety of ways to use 'should'





SHOULD

‘Should’ is a modal verb, which means it doesn’t act like a normal verb - it helps us express:

- Advice
- Obligation
- Probability or expectation
- Regret or criticism

GIVING ADVICE

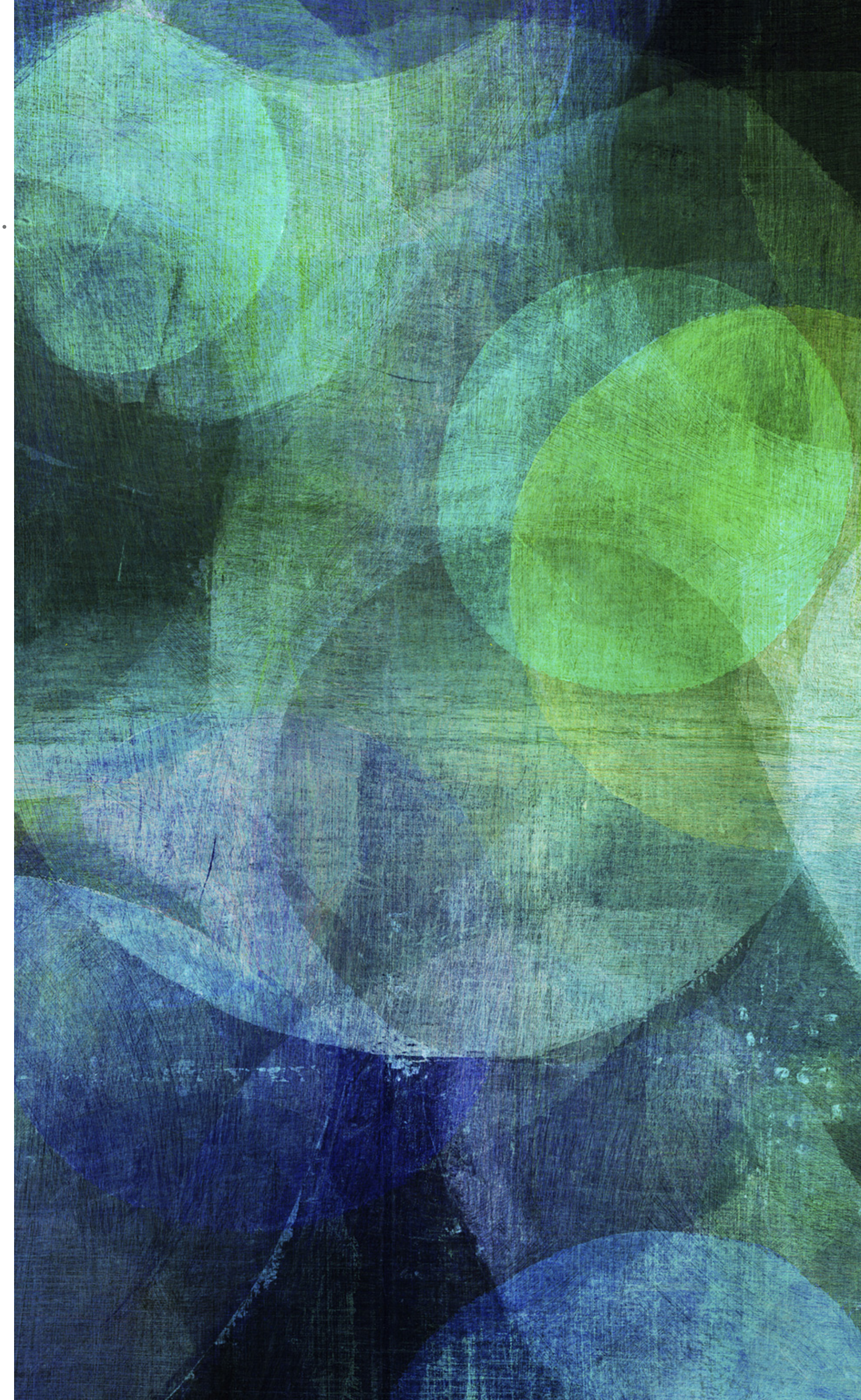
- ▶ Active Voice: **should + Bare Infinitive**
- ▶ Passive Voice: **should be + Past Participle**

e.g. You should ask questions if you don't understand something.

e.g. You shouldn't gossip-it can cause problems.

e.g. Sunscreen should be applied before going outside.

e.g. Junk food shouldn't be eaten too often.





OBLIGATION

- *Should* can express what is expected, required, or considered the right thing to do.
- Notes on the Subject “They”:
- In this case, “they” often refers to people in charge, authorities, or anyone responsible for making decisions.

e.g. They should give us a day off.

e.g. You should put your seat belt on.

PROBABILITY OR EXPECTATION

- *Should* can indicate that something is likely or expected to happen. It expresses a **high probability** but not certainty.

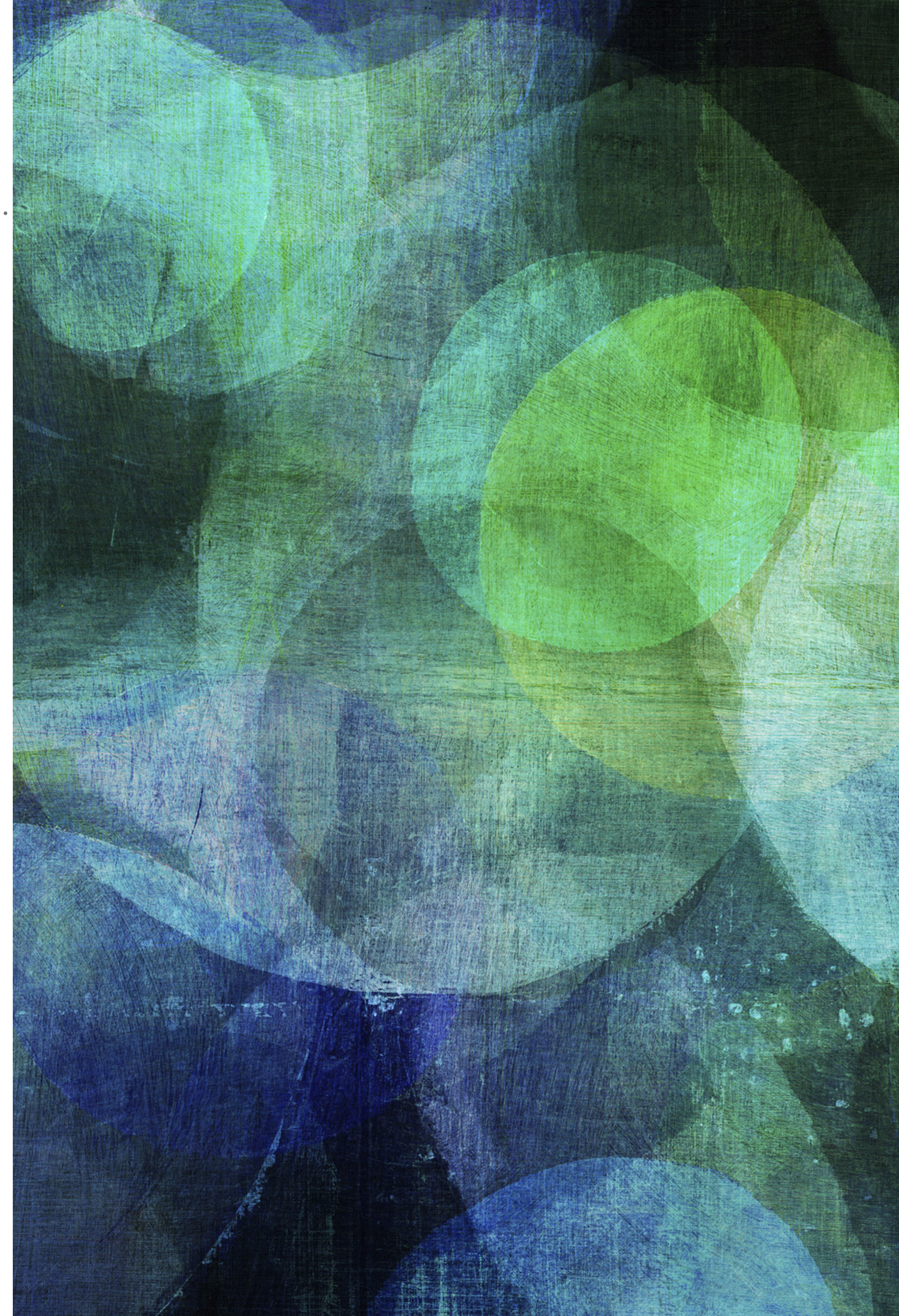
e.g. The train should arrive at 7 p.m.

e.g. They should be home by now.

- Continuous form: **should be + ing**

e.g. They should be studying now.

e.g. They should be arriving at the theater.





REGRET OR CRITICISM

- ▶ Should is used to comment on past actions, usually to express regret, disappointment, or criticism. It often refers to something someone did or didn't do.

Affirmative:

should have + past participle

Negative:

shouldn't have + past participle

e.g. You should have called me earlier.

e.g. She shouldn't have said that.

'SHOULD' IN CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

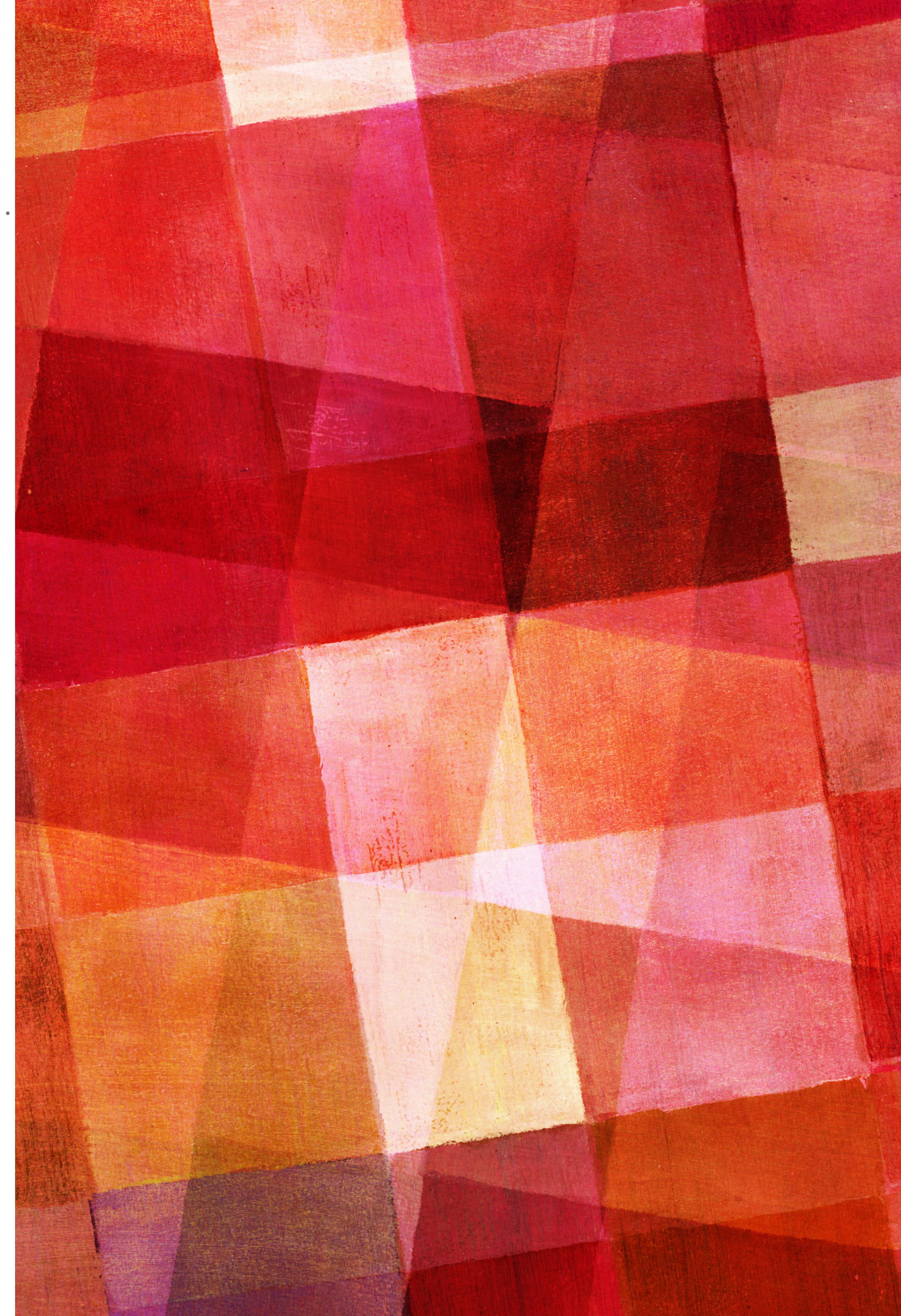
- *In formal English, especially in writing, should can replace 'if'.*
- *It makes your sentences sound polite and professional.*

e.g. If you need help, call this number.

—> *Should you need help, call this number.*

e.g. If you have any questions, feel free to ask.

—> *Should you have any questions, feel free to ask.*





USE 'SHOULD' TO:

- Give advice
- Express obligation
- Show probability or expectation
- Express regret or criticism about the past
- Sound polite and formal