

However, **mal** can also convey an officious, threatening tone:

Zeigen Sie **mal** Ihren Ausweis!  
 Komm du **mal** nach Hause!

*Let me see your identity card!*  
*You just wait till you get home!*

■ **16.9.2** The combination **nun mal** is used in statements to reiterate or confirm something (compare **eben**, 16.5.1) and carries a sense of unavoidability:

Unsere Nachbarn sind **nun mal** so.  
 Damit muss man **nun mal** rechnen.

*That's just how our neighbours are.*  
*That's what you've got to expect, I'm afraid.*

## 16.10 schon

■ **16.10.1** In statements about future actions or events **schon** can be either reassuring or threatening:

Wir werden das **schon** schaffen.  
 Dich erwischen sie **schon** noch.

*Don't worry, we'll manage.*  
*They'll get you one day.*

In other statements **schon** can express agreement, with or without reservation:

Ich denke **schon**, aber ...  
 Weimar war **schon** eine Reise wert.

*Yes, I think so, but ...*  
*Weimar was well worth a visit.*

■ **16.10.2** In imperatives **schon** conveys urgency and impatience:

Mach **schon** auf!  
 Nun geh **schon** entschuldige dich!

*Do open the door!*  
*Go and apologize, quickly!*

## 16.11 vielleicht

■ **16.11.1** In exclamations **vielleicht** serves as an intensifier:

Ich hab **vielleicht** einen Hunger!  
 Wir haben **vielleicht** gelacht!

*I'm absolutely starving!*  
*We killed ourselves laughing.*

■ **16.11.2** In questions **vielleicht** can be used to ask for an explanation and carries a reproachful tone:

Kannst du mir **vielleicht** sagen, warum du so spät kommst?  
 Ist das **vielleicht** dein Ernst?

*Can you explain to me why you are so late?*  
*You don't really mean that, do you?*

In rhetorical questions it conveys irony or even sarcasm:

Bist du **vielleicht** taub?  
 Soll ich dir **vielleicht** noch die Pantoffeln bringen?

*Are you deaf or what?*  
*And would you like me to bring you your slippers as well?*

■ **16.11.3** In commands (which can be in the form of questions) **vielleicht** has a number of meanings:

- friendly advice  
 Geh **vielleicht** mal zum Rechtsanwalt!  
*Why don't you go and see a solicitor?*
- a casual invitation  
**Vielleicht** kommst du mal vorbei!  
*Why don't you come and see me some time?*
- indicating that the speaker would have expected a certain action, but now has to ask for it  
**Vielleicht** hilfst du mir mal!  
*You could give me a hand, you know!*