

GRAMMAR

# Modals of obligation

**LEVEL**

Elementary (A2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A2\_1103G

**LANGUAGE**

English



## Learning outcomes

- I can name the modals of obligation.
- I can use the modals of obligation correctly in a sentence.

# Have to and must

- We use **have to** and **must** for **strong** obligations.
- They mean it is **necessary** to do something.

## Have to

I **have to** speak English at work.

Children **have to** go to school.

## Must

I **must** go to bed now. I'm so tired.

You **must** see a doctor about that.



# Have to

- We follow **have to** with the **base form** of the verb.
- **Have to** changes in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular (he, she, it) to **has**.

Subject	<i>have or has to</i>	Base form of the verb
I	<b>have to</b>	<b>start</b> work at 8 a.m. tomorrow.
We	<b>have to</b>	<b>keep</b> our desks clean and tidy.
He	<b>has to</b>	<b>move</b> to London for that job.
She	<b>has to</b>	<b>take</b> a bus to get to the office.



# Complete the sentences

Use **have to** or **has to** + a verb.

- 1 My eyes aren't that good. I \_\_\_\_\_ glasses.
- 2 At the end of the course all students \_\_\_\_\_ an exam.
- 3 Tina is studying French literature. She \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of books.
- 4 Alvaro finds English quite difficult. You \_\_\_\_\_ to him slowly.
- 5 Catherine works in tourism. \_\_\_\_\_ a lot for work.
- 6 In football, you \_\_\_\_\_ the ball into the net to score a goal.

travel  
read  
take  
wear  
kick  
speak



# Add your own ideas

Write something you (or your friends or family) **have to** do.

1 Every day



I **have to** take my dog for a walk every day.

2 Every morning



3 Every evening



4 Tomorrow



5 This weekend



6 This month





# Must

- **Must** is a modal verb. Its form does **not** change.
- We follow **must** with the **base form** of the verb.

Subject	Must	Base form of the verb
I	must	<b>remember</b> to buy her a present.
We	must	<b>go</b> now. It's getting late!
They	must	<b>come</b> for dinner tomorrow.



# Match the sentences

**1** It's Tim's birthday tomorrow.

**2** My parents said they miss me so much.

**3** That film is fantastic.

**4** I always have too much work to do.

**5** Those shoes are so dirty.

**a** I must go and visit them more often.

**b** You must go and see it!

**c** I must remember to give him a ring!

**d** You must clean them!

**e** I must talk to my boss about it.





# Complete with your own ideas

Then, **compare** answers in **breakout rooms**.

1 To keep improving my English, I must...

2 To help save the planet, we all must...

3 If you visit my town or city, you must...

4 Before someone starts a business, they must...





# Should

- We use **should** for **mild obligations** or **advice**.
- It means it would be a **good idea** to do something.

## Should

He **should** study harder.

You **should** go to the doctor.

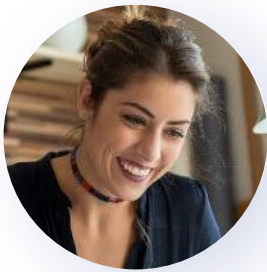
We **should** speak English at work.

When you play football, you **should** keep your eye on the ball.



# Must vs should

- **Must** is stronger than **should**.
- Compare these sentences:



That film is amazing! You **must** go and see it.

That film's pretty good. You **should** go and see it.





# Categorise the sentence

**Read** the sentence. **Decide** if it is a strong or mild obligation.

		Strong	Mild
1	Everyone must leave the office before 6 p.m.		
2	Adults should get 30 minutes of exercise every day.		
3	If you want to become a doctor, you have to study medicine at university.		
4	We should make a decision soon.		
5	You must decide which photo you like best. It can't wait any longer.		



# Share your opinions

Use the pictures and boxes to help you.



Film



Book



Food



Sport

*For me, a film everyone must see is...*

*If you're a fan of...  
...then a book you should read is...*

- watch
- read
- try
- play



# Must not

- **Must not** means something is **not allowed** or is the wrong thing to do.

Subject	Must not	Base form of the verb
You	<b>must not</b>	smoke inside the office.
We	<b>must not</b>	send work emails at the weekend.
They	<b>must not</b>	make any noise after 10 p.m.



We often shorten  
**must not** to **mustn't**.



# Should not

- **Should not** means it is **not** a good idea to do something.

Subject	Should not	Base form of the verb
I	should not	watch TV until 2 a.m.
You	should not	go to bed so late.
We	should not	eat so much fast food.



We often shorten  
**should not** to **shouldn't**.



# Do not have to

- **Do not have to** means **no** obligation to do something; we can do it if we want to (or not).

Subject	Do not have to	Base form of the verb
I	do not have to	get up early tomorrow.
You	do not have to	come to the party on Saturday.
We	do not have to	work from the office anymore.



We often shorten **do not have to** to **don't have to**.



# Does not have to

- For **third person singular** (he, she, it), use *does not have to*.

Subject	<i>Does not have to</i>	Base form of the verb
He	<i>does not have to</i>	go to the meeting tomorrow.
She	<i>does not have to</i>	study that much. She's smart!
It	<i>does not have to</i>	be sunny for us to enjoy the party!

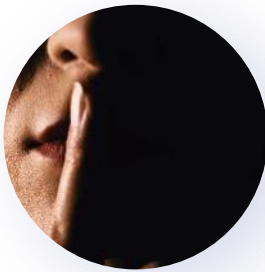


We often shorten *does not have to* to *doesn't have to*.



# Must not vs do not have to

- Be careful! **Must not** and **do not have to** have totally different meanings.



You **mustn't** tell anyone about the party. It's a secret.

You **don't have to** tell anyone about the party. I'm sending out the invitations tomorrow.





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## Complete the sentences

**If I want to stay fit and healthy, I mustn't...**



**A child doesn't have to...**

**If you are driving, you shouldn't...**



# Imagine a classmate wants to visit your country

Write four tips for them. **Share** your advice.



You

One thing  
you must  
visit is...

That sounds  
amazing!



Your  
classmate

Places they  
**must** visit

Foods they  
**have to** try

Things they **don't**  
**have to** do

Month when they  
**shouldn't** visit



# End of the lesson

Idiom

***needs must***

**Meaning:** in certain situations, it's necessary to do something that you don't like.

**Example:** I hate cooking, but **needs must**!



# Additional practice





# Choose the correct option



1 You \_\_\_\_\_ apologise; it's not necessary.

a. **mustn't**

b. **don't have to**

2 You \_\_\_\_\_ smoke. It's bad for your health!

a. **shouldn't**

b. **don't have to**

3 You \_\_\_\_\_ tell him about the party. It's a surprise!

a. **don't have to**

b. **mustn't**

4 You \_\_\_\_\_ show your passport before boarding the plane.

a. **must**

b. **should**

5 You \_\_\_\_\_ stay in city centre. It will make it much easier to travel around the city!

a. **must**

b. **should**



# Talking about bad habits

**Ask** a classmate. **Swap** roles.



*What are some of your bad habits?*

*Well, I shouldn't buy so many clothes!*

Smoke or  
drink alcohol

Arrive late

Drive too fast

Bite one's nails



## Breaking the habit



**Choose one bad habit  
from the last activity.**

**Give a classmate some advice  
on how to stop doing it!**



# Answer key

- P. 5:**
1. have to wear
  2. have to take
  3. has to read
  4. have to speak
  5. has to travel
  6. have to kick
- P. 8:** 1. c, 2. a, 3. b, 4. e, 5. d
- P. 12:**
1. Strong
  2. Mild
  3. Strong
  4. Mild
  5. Strong
- P. 19:** 1. a, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b, 5. a
- P. 25:** 1. b, 2. a, 3. b, 4. a, 5. b



# Summary

## ***Have to and must:***

- Use ***have to*** or ***must*** + the **base form** of the verb for **strong** obligations.
- ***Have to*** changes in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular (he, she, it) to ***has to*** → *He **has to** go to work tomorrow.*
- ***Must*** is a modal verb. Its form does **not** change. → *We **must** go now. It's getting late!*

## ***Should:***

- Use ***should*** + the **base form** of the verb for **mild obligations** or **advice**.
- It means it would be a **good idea** to do something → *He **should** study harder.*

## ***Must not and should not:***

- ***Must not*** means something is **not allowed** or is the wrong thing to do. → *You **must not** smoke here!*
- ***Should not*** means it is **not a good idea** to do something. → *You **should not** go to bed so late.*

## ***Do not have to:***

- ***Do not have to*** means **no obligation** to do something → *I **do not have to** get up early tomorrow.*
- For **third person singular** (he, she, it), use ***does not have to*** → *He **doesn't have to** come tomorrow.*



# Vocabulary

to have to

must

should

must not

should not

to not have to



## Notes

