

GRAMMAR

Modal verbs of obligation

EXERCISE 1A

Read the text and observe which modal verbs convey obligations.

If you want to succeed in a job interview, you **should** clearly understand your current skill level and all the value that you can bring to the project. You also need to be able to describe that in concise terms. The recruiters don't want to **have to** read through a multi-page resume to understand what technologies you know. You **should** make it easy to see your technical skills, experience and why you're a perfect fit for the job. It is always a good idea to write the "Summary of Qualifications" section. Surely, you don't **have to do it, but** it will definitely be to your benefit if you do.

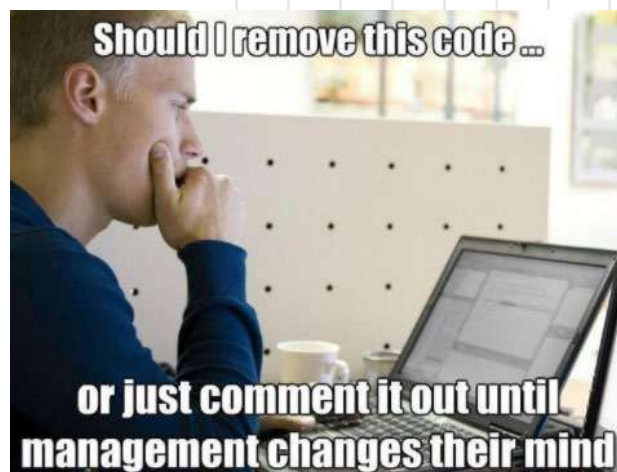
You **must** truly believe in two things (you **can** try repeating them aloud to feel comfortable).

- The right chance with the right people in the right company is waiting for me.
- I have the skills that employers need and that will be valuable for the company.

EXERCISE 1B

Complete the table of rules by placing the example sentences in the correct row.

1. You have to make sure your resume is free of typos.
2. You can try using apps to memorise new vocabulary.
3. You don't have to work on Sundays.
4. You mustn't smoke in public places.
5. Companies must pay their employees.
6. You can't know everything.
7. You should take notes when you're in a meeting.
8. You shouldn't work for free.



MODAL VERBS OF OBLIGATION

It is possible	
It's a good idea	
It's a strict responsibility	
You don't have another choice	
It's not a good idea	
It's not necessary	
It is wrong/forbidden	
It is impossible	

- **Must and Have to** are often interchangeable in affirmative sentences but that's not the case for negative sentences. Compare:
 - *You don't have to do it – you have a choice, you can do it or not do it, it's up to you.*
 - *You mustn't do it – you can't do it, it is forbidden.*
- **Should** is often used for giving advice or talking about expected behaviors:
 - *You should try doing yoga.*
 - *Clicking this button should bring up the menu.*
- **Can't** can be used to denote strict prohibition.
 - *You can't wear a bikini to work.*



Review the form of the modal verbs in different tenses.

	Can	Must	Have to	Should
Present	can	must	have to / has to	should
Past	could	had to	had to	had to
Future	will be able to	will have to	will have to	will have to





EXERCISE 2

Choose the correct option.

a) **must** b) **mustn't** c) **have to**
d) **don't have to**

1. You _____ to go. You can stay here if you want.
2. It's a fantastic film. You _____ see it.
3. The restaurant won't be busy tonight. We _____ reserve a table.
4. I am very busy this week. I _____ work every evening.
5. I want to know what happened. You _____ tell me.
6. I don't want Sue to know what happened. You _____ tell her.
7. I _____ go now or I'll be late for my appointment.
8. We _____ decide now. We can decide later.
9. It's Lisa's birthday next week. We _____ forget to buy her a present.
10. You _____ leave your laptop like that. Someone _____ steal it.



EXERCISE 3

Choose the right option.

1. Visitors from the European Union **should/don't have to/mustn't** have a visa to enter Ireland.
2. You **mustn't/don't need to/should** save a file before you close it, or you will lose it.
3. You **must/shouldn't/have to** relax after a hard day at work.
4. He **have to/mustn't/has to** ask for permission if I want to leave earlier.
5. The scroll effect **mustn't/didn't have/should** work now.
6. I don't like dress codes. You **must/can/don't have to** be serious without a suit.
7. Our company has a flexible schedule. We **can't/mustn't/don't have to** be in the office from nine to five.
8. She **doesn't have to/doesn't has to/can** to attend many meetings.



EXERCISE 4

Answer the question.

What are the requirements for a person, if he/she wants to be a great specialist in your area?

Use all the verbs in the box at least once. Don't forget to put them in the correct form.

should • should+not • can • can+not • must • must+not •
• have to • have to+not