

# SECTION TWO : STRUCTURE

## Modal verbs

### 1. Obligation and necessity

#### Must – have to – has to – had to

#### Must :

- Speaker is the source of obligation
- You must pay attention to me.
- Warm invitation
- You must try this cake.
- Question : to express anger
- Must you make this noise?
- You must study.
- It's a must to study.

#### Note

- It is necessary
- It is a necessity
- It is obligatory
- It is an obligation

#### Have to:

I , you , we , they , plural

- Speaker is reporting obligation from law
- Religion , rules or other people
- In England, you have to work until the age of 67
- After : do , does , did , will in questions
- Do you have to go home now?

#### Has to

He , she , it , singular and uncountable

- He has to walk home because he has lost his wallet.

#### Had to

- Past obligation
- Yesterday, I had to pay my bills.

## 2. Lack of obligation and necessity

### Needn't – (don't have to) – (don't need to)

- **Future** : **Won't have to** - **won't need to**
- **Present** : **don't have to** - **don't need to**
- **Present** : **doesn't have to** - **doesn't need to**
- **Past** : **didn't have to** - **didn't need to**

#### Examples

- Tomorrow is a day off, you won't have to wake up early.
- Tomorrow is a day off, you don't have to sleep early.
- I didn't have to go to work yesterday we had nothing to do at work.
- **Future / present** : **needn't + vinf.**
- **Past** : **needn't have + pp**

#### Examples

- Tomorrow is a day off, you needn't wake up early.
- I needn't have bought all that food for the party nobody came.

#### Didn't have to/ need to + vinf

- Didn't do something that wasn't necessary
- Wise – economical - saver
- I didn't have to buy food as mum told me that she had cooked. = didn't buy

#### Needn't have pp

- Did something in vain
- Wasteful – stupid
- I needn't have bought all that food. I don't know who will eat it. = I bought food

## 3. Prohibition

Prohibited – not allowed – banned – restricted  
forbidden – against rules – not permitted

- **Mustn't + vinf**
- **Can't + vinf**

This room is restricted to staff only, you mustn't enter.

# Modal verbs

## Deduction and assumption

Meaning	Certain	Must	Tense	Present : vinf / be pp
	Probable	May / might		
	Impossible	Can't / couldn't		Past : have pp Have been pp
	Could ...but			

- **Dad left his key on the table when he left.**
- He can't have seen them when he left.
- He must have forgotten them when he left.
- He might have other keys.
- He could have taken them, but he didn't.

Should	Advice	vinf / be pp
Ought to		
Had better	Blame	Have pp/ have been pp
Could ...but		

- You have a test soon. You should study.

- You failed the test. You should have studied for it.