
Obligation & option

1 Look at sentences 1 – 10 and decide if the explanation which follows each one is true or false. Underline the correct answer. Use the words and phrases in bold to help you decide.

1. During the exam, a pencil and eraser are **required**.
*The people organising the exam will provide you with a pencil and an eraser. **True** / **False***
2. Parents can be made **liable for** their children's debts.
*Parents may be legally responsible for the money their children owe. **True** / **False***
3. He was **obliged to** pay back the money that he had won.
*He had the choice whether or not to pay back the money that he had won. **True** / **False***
4. Students doing holiday jobs are **exempt from** paying income tax.
*Students doing holiday jobs pay a smaller amount of income tax than other people. **True** / **False***
5. The United Nations voted to impose **mandatory** sanctions on the country.
*The United Nations imposed legally-binding sanctions which had to be obeyed by everyone, without exception. **True** / **False***
6. Some companies **force** their employees to work long hours for low pay.
*A lot of companies ask their employees to work long hours. **True** / **False***
7. It was an emergency and she pressed the red button; there was **no alternative**.
*There was nothing else she could do; she had to set off the alarm by pressing the red button. **True** / **False***

8. Classes on Wednesday afternoons are **optional**.
It is necessary to attend classes on Wednesday afternoons. True / False
9. It is **compulsory** to wear a crash helmet on a motorcycle.
It is your choice whether or not to wear a crash helmet when you ride a motorcycle. True / False
10. The museum is asking visitors for a **voluntary** £2.
You don't need to pay £2 to visit the museum. True / False

2 Complete these sentences with an appropriate word or phrase from the exercise above. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible.

1. Visitors to the country are to declare any excess tobacco or alcohol imports to the customs officer.
2. I'm afraid I have but to resign from the committee.
3. If you are caught speeding, you will be the payment of the fine.
4. Attendance at all classes is, otherwise you may not get a certificate at the end of the course.
5. Many retired people do work in their local community.
6. In some countries, there is a death sentence for all drug traffickers.
7. For visitors to Britain from outside the European Union, a visa may be
8. I hate it when people try to me to do something I don't like.
9. Most new cars come with air-conditioning.
10. Children's clothes are from VAT.