

Grammar | past obligation/permission

1. Look at the example sentences in the Grammar box and complete the gaps with the appropriate verbs which indicate past obligation or permission.

Grammar box

- ✓ They **had to** organise their weekly project.
- ✓ We **didn't have to** pay for it.
- ✓ They **were allowed to** visit their close friends.
- ✓ They **weren't allowed to** tell anyone the secret.
- ✓ They **couldn't** take their bags with them.
- ✓ They **could** stay up to watch the Moon landing on TV.



	Present	Past
Obligation	have to/must
No obligation	don't have to
Permission	be allowed to can
No permission	not be allowed to can't mustn't

Form

have/had + verb with to
allowed + verb with to
could(n't) + verb without to

2. Complete the sentences with modal verbs from the Grammar box. More than one answer may be possible.

- ✓ Martin wasn't in the office, so I | I phone him on his mobile. (I was obliged to.)
- ✓ When I was at school, we | I run inside the building. (It was not permitted.)
- ✓ In my last job, we | I work from home for two days a week. (It was permitted.)
- ✓ Luckily, we had our passports with us, so we | I go back to the hotel. (It wasn't necessary.)
- ✓ We | I smoke in the restaurant, so we | I go outside. (It was not permitted/It was necessary.)
- ✓ I stayed up all night, because I | I finish my assignment by today. (It was necessary.)
- ✓ As a young child, I was | I travel alone on buses. (It was permitted.)
- ✓ The flight was delayed, but we | I wait very long before take-off. (It wasn't necessary.)

3. Correct the following sentences.

- ✓ I wasn't be allowed to stay out late.
I.
- ✓ We could to eat chocolate all day long.

✓ Did you were allowed to buy new clothes?	1.
✓ We didn't allowed to watch television.	1.
✓ I couldn't to use the telephone because it was too expensive.	1.
✓ We didn't had to help with the housework.	1.
✓ We had to studying very hard.	1.



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Source: 1)www.wikipedia.org 2)https://www.english-4u.de/grammar1.htm