HAVE TO / MUSTN'T / DON'T HAVE TO / NEEDN'T

Must/Have to, Mustn't/Don't have to

MUST

Usage

- Express personal obligation
- Express what the speaker thinks is necessary
- Express subjective obligation



Examples

- *You must work hard.*
- *All passengers must wear seat belts.*

HAVE TO

Usage

- Express impersonal obligation
- The subject is obliged or forced to act by a separate, external power (for example, the Law or school rules)
- Express objective obligation



Examples

- *I have to leave early today.*
- *You will have to pay for the excess.*

MUSTN'T

Usage

- It is prohibited; it is not allowed. It is important that you do NOT do something. The prohibition can be subjective (the speaker's opinion) or objective.



Examples

- *Children mustn't talk to strangers.*
- *Cars mustn't park in front of the entrance.*

DON'T HAVE TO

Usage

- There is no obligation; you are not required to do something, especially if you don't want to.



Examples

- *You don't have to make excuses for her.*
- *You don't have to whisper, no one can hear us.*

GRAMMAR DRILLS

A. Look at these signs carefully, then choose the correct answer.





1. Bathers **have to / mustn't / needn't** take a shower before entering the pool.
2. People with a contagious disease **must / needn't /mustn't** enter the pool.
3. Bathers **must / mustn't** jump or dive in the pool, they **must / mustn't** use the stairs.
4. Bathers **must / mustn't / needn't** shout or run around the pool.
5. Children **must / mustn't / needn't** use the pool without (sans) adult supervision.
6. Bathers **can / may / mustn't** pee in the pool. They **mustn't / can't / have to** use the restrooms / toilets.
7. Bathers **have to / can / may** use a swimming cap and googles.

B. Choose the correct answer

MUST vs HAVE TO

An obligation from within (une obligation que l'on se fixe à soi-même)**: MUST + bV**
An obligation from outside (une obligation extérieure), usually **a rule** (une règle / un réglement): **HAVE TO / HAS TO + bV**

1. I really **must / have to** remember to post this letter before five o'clock.
2. Ben's boss wants him to visit our firm (entreprise) in Japan; he really **must / has to / have to** go.
3. Air hostesses and stewarts **must / have to** wear a uniform**.**
4. If you want to visit this isolated village, you **must / have to** rent a car.
5. Before being allowed to enter the USA, visitors **must / have to** fill a form at the airport.
6. My house is in a mess; I **must / have to** find time to clean it up.
7. The doctor is very strict; Clare **must / have to / has to** reduce her consumption of soda.
8. I really want to lose weight, I **must / have to** reduce my consumption of sugar.

9. You **must / have to** visit us in London ! We'd love to show you around !

10. We **must / have to** try this new restaurant. Everyone says it's wonderful.

C. MUSTN'T vs NEEDN'T / DON'T HAVE TO

You mustn't + bV > It is prohibited / forbidden = je ne dois pas / il ne faut pas
You needn't / don't have to + bV > there is no obligation = ne pas être obligé de
A la 3eme personne du singlulier **DO** devient **DOESN'T**
Ainsi on dira **''You don't have to pay"**, mais **''she doesn't have to pay."**

1. Don't tell her anything, that's our little secret. She **doesn't have to / don't have to** know it.

2. Don't worry, you **mustn't / needn't** do it. I'll do it later

3. You **mustn't / needn't** swim here ; there are sharks in the water.

4. You **don't have to / doesn't have to / mustn't** come if you don't want to.

5. The concert is free. You **mustn't / don't have to** pay.

6. It's a relaxing evening. You **mustn't / don't have to** dress up.

7. She now works from home, she **mustn't / doesn't have to** commute to work (faire le trajet jusqu'au travail).

8. Mary's children are teens. She **mustn't / needn't** hire a nanny to look after them when she goes out.

9. You **mustn't / needn't** drive me to the airport, I have called a taxi.

10. Because of the covid, you **mustn't / needn't** go out without your face mask.