

GRAMMAR: MODALS

Modals of obligation, prohibition and necessity



INTRODUCTION:

must

Obligation: You **must** study tonight, we have an exam tomorrow.

mustn't

Prohibition: You **mustn't** smoke in public spaces. It's forbidden.

have to

Obligation: Doctors sometimes **have to** work on Sunday.

had to (past)

Obligation: She couldn't stay; she **had to** go home.

don't have to

No obligation: Teachers **don't have to** work on Sunday.

didn't have to (past)

No obligation: You **didn't have to** apologise; it wasn't necessary.

Complete the sentences with the words in the box:

mustn't - don't have to - must - has to - have to - didn't have to - had to

1. We _____ talk during the play.	5. Your video _____ be entertaining if you want it to go viral.
2. I _____ return the book to the library.	6. She _____ to go to the bank yesterday because she needed cash.
3. You _____ have to come camping with us, but I think you would enjoy it.	7. You _____ buy bread. There's enough at home.
4. We _____ get up at 5 a.m. yesterday to go on the ski trip.	8. We _____ go to class last week because we went on a class trip.

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Match the modal verb with its use:

1. You mustn't talk at the cinema.	A) It is a necessity
2. She must/has to do her homework.	B) It isn't obligatory
3. We need to buy milk.	C) It isn't necessary
4. You don't need to worry about Sally. She's fine.	D) It is prohibited
5. They don't have to get up early at the weekend,	E) It is obligatory

Choose the correct modal of obligation, prohibition and necessity

1. School uniform is compulsory. We have to/ don't have to wear it.	5. We had to/ must stay in class yesterday for P.E. because it was raining.
2. I Must/ Mustn't go home. I can't stay out late.	6. I didn't have to/ mustn't go to school during the summer holidays.
3. We don't have to/ didn't have to stay at school for lunch. We can go home if we want.	7. I must/ had to be on time to class. Otherwise, I'll get penalised.
4. You must/ mustn't put cheese in Tania's sandwich. She doesn't like it.	8. Students don't have to/ mustn't speak when the teacher is speaking.

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Choose the correct phrases in the box to replace the underlined phrases:

You didn't have to - You don't have to - You had to - You have to -
You must - You mustn't

1. It is necessary to pay to use the train. _____
2. It wasn't compulsory to wear seat belts 50 years ago. _____
3. It's necessary to practice to be good at playing the piano. _____
4. It was compulsory to do the military service fourty years ago. _____
5. It's important not to use your mobile phone in class. _____
6. It isn't compulsory to wear a watch to school. _____

Complete the sentences with the correct modal of obligation, prohibition and necessity:

1. My brother _____ practice a lot, but now he's an excellent violin player.
2. In my school we _____ wear a uniform.
3. You _____ fasten your seatbelt during take off and landing.
4. Tony _____ forget his homework again, or he'll fail the subject.
5. We _____ wash the dishes, we have a dishwasher.
6. Students _____ copy in an exam.