Modal Verbs to Express Suggestions and Obligations

Review the rules about using the modal verbs *should, must,* and *have to* below. Then complete the exercises that follow.

SHOULD

- to give advice, suggestions, recommendations
- form: should + base verb
- negative: shouldn't + base verb
- question: Should + subject + base verb

HAVE TO

- to express obligation or necessity
- can be used in past, present, or future
- form: have/has to + base verb
- questions: Do/does + subject + have to + base verb

MUST

- to express obligation; something that is extremely necessary
- form: must + base verb

DON'T/DOESN'T HAVE TO

- to express that there is no obligation; you are not required to do something, but you can if you want to

MUST NOT

- to express prohibition
- form: must not + base verb

Exercises: Fill in the blank with the correct form of *should*, *must*, or *have to*. Some might be in the negative form. Watch out for present versus past tenses!

1. If you visit Ecuador, you _____ spend some time in the Historic Center.
2. He _____ have seen that scary movie before going to bed. Now he's going to have nightmares!
3. _____ I take French or Arabic next semester?
4. Drivers and passengers _____ wear their seatbelt in the car. It's the law!
5. Students _____ smoke on campus. Smoking is prohibited.
6. Sorry I couldn't go with you yesterday. I _____ babysit my sister.
7. Peter _____ take his car to the mechanic anymore because his dad already did it.
8. You _____ drink if you don't want to.
9. Thanks for buying me a gift for Valentine's Day last week! You _____ do that.
10. Mom, ____ I _____ go to that school event tonight?

LIVEWORKSHEETS