

must, mustn't or have to

- 1 We use **must** when the speaker thinks it is necessary or important to do an action:
*You **must** go.* (= It is important that you go.)

We make negatives, questions and short answers like this:

*You **mustn't** go.*

***Must** you go? ~ Yes, I **must**.*

- 2 We use **have to** to talk about an action that is necessary because of rules or laws, or because someone obliges us to do it:

*Doctors sometimes **have to** work on Sunday.*
(It is in the rules of their work.)

We make negatives, questions and short answers with a form of **do**:

*Teachers **don't have to** work on Sunday.*

***Do** you **have to** work today? ~ No, I **don't**.*

3 POSITIVE

In positive sentences we can often use **must** and **have to** with little difference in meaning, because many things are important both because we think so and because there are rules:

*You **must** work hard in order to succeed*
(OR ... *you **have to** work ...*).

4 NEGATIVE

Note the difference in meaning between **mustn't** and **don't have to**.

In negative sentences we often use **mustn't** to say that something is against the rules, or against the law:

*You **mustn't** smoke on buses.* (Smoking is against the rules.)

*In football you **mustn't** touch the ball with your hands.* (Touching the ball is against the rules.)

We use **don't have to** to say that people are not obliged to do something:

*In Britain, people **don't have to** carry a passport with them.* (= People are not obliged to carry one.)

*Nowadays pupils **do not have to** learn Latin at school.* (= They are not obliged to learn it.)

5 QUESTIONS

In questions we usually use **do/does ... have to** (NOT **must**) to ask if something is obligatory or important:

***Does** Michael **have to** get up early tomorrow?*
***Do** we **have to** wait here?*

- A The Stanton Squash Club has decided that it is important for all club members to do these things:

wear sports shoes and clean clothes have a shower pay before you play finish on time

But these things are not allowed:

disturb other players eat or drink outside the bar take club balls home

Put **have to**, **don't have to** or **mustn't** in the gaps.

- You *don't have to* wear white clothes, but you *have to* wear sports shoes.
- You *mustn't* disturb other players, but you *don't have to* be silent.
- 1 You finish on time, but you start on time.
- 2 You play with club balls, but if you do, you take them home.
- 3 You eat or drink outside the bar, but you buy your food in the bar if you don't want to.
- 4 You have a shower, and you wear clean clothes.

Complete these sentences with must, mustn't or the correct form of have to.



- 1.- At our school we _____ wear a uniform.
- 2.- You _____ cross the roads without looking. It's dangerous.
- 3.- You _____ turn on the central heating. It's automatic.
- 4.- The exams are next week. I _____ work harder.
- 5.- You _____ forget your umbrella. It's going to rain.
- 6.- Students _____ listen to the teacher or they won't understand.



- 7.- You _____ cross the road when the red light is showing.
- 8.- We _____ leave now or we'll miss the plane.
- 9.- Soldiers _____ obey orders.
- 10.- Sorry, I _____ go now. I don't want to be late.
- 11.- Shop assistants _____ deal with the public.
- 12.- You _____ come with us if you don't want to.
- 13.- I was late this morning because I _____ wait a long time for the bus.
- 14.- In Spain, teachers _____ wear uniforms.
- 15.- You _____ take food in your room.
- 16.- You _____ use the elevators in case of fire.
- 17.- I _____ wear glasses because I can't see very well.
- 18.- You _____ read this book. It's really good.



- 19.- You _____ go shopping today. We don't need anything.
- 20.- You _____ a mobile phone in class.
- 21.- We _____ feed the animals. It's forbidden.
- 22.- We _____ book the tickets before it's too late.
- 23.- In Spain, teachers _____ work on Saturdays.
- 24.- In Britain you _____ drive on the left.
- 25.- Every player in a football team _____ have a number.
- 26.- You _____ forget his birthday again.
- 27.- Doctors sometimes _____ work at the weekend.
- 28.- Nowadays in Spain pupils _____ learn Latin at school.
- 29.- You _____ smoke on public places.
- 30.- My wife _____ go to work today. It's a holiday.
- 31.- You _____ shout. I can hear you.
- 32.- We _____ be quiet in the library.
- 33.- You _____ use a computer on the plane.
- 34.- She _____ come to the dentist's with me.
- 35.- At a restaurant you _____ pay the bill but you _____ eat everything.

