


have to, must, should

have to / must (+ infinitive)

- 1 You **have to** wear a seatbelt in a car. (2 42)))
Do you **have to** work on Saturdays?
I **had to** wear a uniform at my primary school.
I'll **have to** get up early tomorrow. My interview is at 9.00.
- 2 You **must** be on time tomorrow because there's a test.
You **must** remember to phone Emily – it's her birthday.
- 3 I love the Louvre! You **have to** go when you're in Paris.
You **must** see this film – it's amazing!

- *have to* and *must* are normally used to talk about obligation or something that it is necessary to do.

- 1 *have to* is a normal verb and it exists in all tenses and forms, e.g. also as a gerund or infinitive.
- 2 *must* is a modal verb. It only exists in the present, but it can be used with a future meaning.
- 3 You can also use *have to* or *must* for strong recommendations.

 **have to or must?**

Have to and *must* have a very similar meaning, and you can usually use either form.

Have to is more common for general, external obligations, for example rules and laws.

Must is more common for specific (i.e. on one occasion) or personal obligations. Compare:

I have to wear a shirt and tie at work. (= It's the rule in this company.)

I must buy a new shirt – this one is too old now. (= It's my own decision.)

have got to

Have got to is often used instead of *have to* or *must* in spoken English, e.g. *I've got to go now. It's very late.*

- a Complete with the correct form of *have to* (+, -, or ?).

I'll have to call back later because the line's engaged. (+)

- 1 Passengers _____ switch off their laptops during take-off. (+)
- 2 _____ you _____ do a lot of homework when you were at school? (?)
- 3 My sister is a nurse, so some weeks she _____ work nights. (+)
- 4 _____ you ever _____ have an operation? (?)
- 5 Saturdays are the best day of the week. I love _____ get up early. (-)
- 6 I _____ leave a message on her voicemail because she wasn't in. (+)
- 7 In the future, people _____ go to school; they'll all study at home. (-)
- 8 With old mobile phones, you used to _____ charge the battery more often. (+)
- 9 _____ your boyfriend _____ answer his work emails at weekends? (?)
- 10 The exhibition was free, so I _____ pay. (-)

don't have to

- You **don't have to** pay – this museum is free. (2 43)))
You **don't have to** go to the party if you don't want to.

mustn't

- You **mustn't** park here. (2 44)))
You **mustn't** eat that cake – it's for the party.

- We use *don't have to* when there is no obligation to do something, and *mustn't* when something is prohibited.
- *don't have to* and *mustn't* are completely different. Compare:
You don't have to drive – we can get a train. (= You can drive if you want to, but it's not necessary / obligatory.)
You mustn't drive along this street. (= It's prohibited, against the law, NOT *You don't have to drive along this street.*)
- You can often use *can't* or *not allowed to* instead of *mustn't*.
You mustn't / can't / 're not allowed to park here.

should / shouldn't (+ infinitive)

- You **should** take warm clothes with you to Dublin. (2 45)))
It might be cold at night.
You **shouldn't** drink so much coffee. It isn't good for you.
I think the government **should** do something about unemployment.

- *should* is not as strong as *must / have to*. We use it to give advice or an opinion – to say if we think something is the right or wrong thing to do.
- *should* is a modal verb. The only forms are *should / shouldn't*.
- You can use *ought to / ought not to* instead of *should / shouldn't*.
You ought to take warm clothes with you to Dublin.
You ought not to drink so much coffee.

- b Circle the correct form. Tick ✓ if both are possible.

You *don't have to* / mustn't use your phone in quiet zones.

- 1 Do you think we *should* / *ought to* text Dad to tell him we'll be late?
- 2 You *don't have to* / *mustn't* send text messages when you are driving.
- 3 A pilot *has to* / *must* wear a uniform when he's at work.
- 4 You *shouldn't* / *mustn't* talk on your mobile when you're filling up with petrol.
- 5 I *have to* / *must* speak to my phone company. My last bill was wrong.
- 6 We *don't have to* / *mustn't* hurry. We have plenty of time.