

## OBLIGATION

### HAVE TO

- It is the most common expression in everyday use.
- **1.** It is necessary to do something. I am obliged to do it.  
*Ex. Everyone has to pass a driving test before getting a driving licence.*
- **2.** Use **Have to** and not **must** to say what somebody is obliged to do. The speaker is not giving his / her opinion.  
*Ex. I have to work from 8.30 to 5.30 every day. (It's a fact not an opinion)*
- **REMEMBER:** Use the correct form of **have to** for all tenses and forms.  
*Ex. After his accident, Gary had to take time off work.*

*Sheila has had to wear glasses since she was five years old.*

Use have to for most questions:

*Does Paul have to drive?*

### MUST

- **1.** It is similar to **have to**.  
*Ex. It's later than I thought. I must go home./ I have to go home.*
- **2.** You can use **must** to give your own opinion, to say what you think is necessary or to recommend someone to do something. **Have to** is also possible.  
*Ex. I haven't spoken to Sue for ages. I must phone her.*  
*(I say this is necessary)*  
*Mark is a really nice person. You must meet him*  
*(I recommend this)*
- **3.** But **must** is often used in written rules and instructions:  
*Ex. Candidates must write in ink and answer four questions*

*(Instructions on an exam paper)*

- **4. Must** is used in spoken English, when

- the speaker is in a position of power.

*Ex. Jamie, you must clean your room today.*

*(mother talking to her young child)*

- there is urgent necessity

*Ex. You really must talk to your boss about a pay rise.*

*(friend talking to a friend)*

### Have got to

- It often expresses strong feelings in **speaking and in informal writing**.  
*Ex. He's got to drive more slowly. I'm afraid he's going to have an accident.*

#### REMEMBER:

Use **have got to** and **must** only for the present or future:

*I've got to wear glasses all the time.*

*Everyone must take an eye test tomorrow.*

## NECESSITY

We can use need like a **normal main verb** in all the tenses, but it can also be a **modal verb** in questions and negatives:

Normal verb	Modal verb
<p>It has –s on the third person singular present, questions and negatives are made with do, there are infinitive and participles and a past tense and the verb is followed by an infinitive with to. It's much more common than the modal verb.</p> <p>It is more common to talk about habitual, general necessity.</p>	<p>It has no –s on the 3<sup>rd</sup> person sg, no infinitives or participles, no past tense, questions and negatives are made without do, and it is followed by an infinitive without to. The most common used form is the negative “needn’t”. Questions sound unnatural.</p> <p>It refers to immediate necessity. It is often used to ask for and give permission.</p>
I need <b>to</b> clean my room	-----
I don't need <b>to</b> clean my room	I needn't clean my room
Do I need <b>to</b> clean my room?	Need I clean my room?

### NEEDN'T + HAVE + (PAST PART)

If you say that somebody **needn't have done** something, it means that he did it, but it was unnecessary; he wasted his time.

*“You **needn't have washed** the dishes because there was a dishwasher in the kitchen” (you washed the dishes, but this was not necessary because the dishwasher could have done the job)*

### **NEEDN'T + HAVE + (PAST PART) / DIDN'T NEED TO (INFINITIVE)**

She **needn't have bought tomatoes for the salad**. When she got home, she found that she already had some. ( no fue necesario haber comprado)(it wasn't necessary to buy them, but **she did**)

She **didn't need to buy tomatoes for the salad**. ( no fue necesario) (it wasn't necessary to buy them ; **we don't know whether she did or not** )

I **needn't have gone** to the station (no fue necesario haber ido) ( I made an unnecessary journey. **I went**)

I **didn't need to go** to the station. (no fue necesario) (it was unnecessary to go – **I don't say whether I went or not**, but I probably didn't)

## LACK OF OBLIGATION / NECESSITY

### It's not necessary to do something:

- DON'T / DOESN'T HAVE TO (+ inf)

You *don't have to come* so early, you can come at nine.  
He *didn't have to wear* a uniform when he was at school.

Pay attention to 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular present and other tenses.

- **NEEDN'T (+ INF) // DON'T/DOESN'T NEED TO (+ INF)**

You *needn't come* back tomorrow  
You *don't need to come* back tomorrow.

## PROHIBITION / PERMISSION

### **MUSTN'T + (inf)**

You *mustn't smoke* in hospitals.

### **CAN / CAN'T (+ INF)**

You *can park* here.  
You *can't park* here.

## ADVICE

### SHOULD / SHOULDN'T

It's used to give advice or to give an opinion.

*You look tired. You **should** go to bed.// you **shouldn't** believe everything you see in the newspaper.*

**Should have + past part** = you didn't do something but it would have been the right thing to do.

*You **should have checked** your emails. Now it's too late to solve the problem.*

**Shouldn't have + past part** = you did something, but it was the wrong thing to do.

*You **shouldn't have driven** so fast.*

### OUGHT TO / OUGHT NOT TO

*You **ought to** see the dentist.*

*People **ought not to** drive like that.*

**Should** and **ought to** have a very similar meaning. They are not as strong as **MUST**.

### HAD BETTER

It's followed by the infinitive without to. The meaning is present or future, not past. It is used to give advice, to say that somebody should/ought to do something. The meaning is stronger and more urgent.

***You'd better** hurry up if you want to get home before dark.*

***You'd better not wake me up** when you come in.*

### BE SUPPOSED TO + INF

It has a meaning rather like **should**. It is used to talk about what people have to do according to the rules and the law, or what is expected to happen.

*You **are supposed to start** work at 8.30 every morning.*

There is often an idea of contrast between what is supposed to happen and what actually happens.

*Catholics **are supposed to go** to church on Sundays.*

**Not supposed to** often expresses prohibitions.

*You **are not supposed to be** in there.*

