

## 51 Obligation and necessity: *must*, *have to*, *need to*

- We use *must* and *have to* to express obligation or necessity, but there is a difference in meaning.
  - We use *must* when the speaker thinks that it is necessary to do something: *I must go – it's late. You must have a haircut soon. You must be home by midnight.*
  - We use *have to* when an action is necessary because another person says so, or there is a rule: *You have to be seventeen to drive a car. (It's the law.)*
- We can also use *need to* to say that something is necessary: *I'm bad at tennis. I need to practise.*
- *Must* has no past form; we use *had to*: *We had to study philosophy at school.*
- The past of *need to* is *needed to*: *They needed to win the match to stay in the league.*
- To ask if something is necessary, we usually use *have to* or *need to*, not *must*. We form questions with *do/does/did*: *Do you have to help at home? Do we need to buy any food? Did she need to take a taxi?*

### PRACTICE

#### 51a Circle the correct answer.

- 0 I haven't got any stamps. I need to / *had to* go to the post office.
- 1 Does Marlon *have to* / *must* wear a tie at work?
- 2 Maggie *has to* / *had to* look after her baby niece yesterday.
- 3 Did you *must* / *need to* buy more food, or was there enough?
- 4 When you arrive at a hotel, you *have to* / *has to* register at reception.
- 5 Excuse me, do new students *must* / *need to* go to the registration office?
- 6 Jason *must* / *have to* stop arriving late, or he'll be in trouble!

#### 51b Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 0 My hair is too long. I ..... *need to get* ..... a haircut. (need to / get)
- 1 Her watch is broken. She ..... a new one. (have to / buy)
- 2 I couldn't stay in my old flat. I ..... another one. (have to / find)
- 3 We haven't got any food! We ..... to the supermarket. (must / go)
- 4 It's only six o'clock. .... we ..... now? (need to / leave)
- 5 Your room is dirty. You really ..... it! (must / clean)
- 6 Was the concert free, or ..... you ..... ? (have to / pay)

## 51C Circle the correct answer.

A: What was the hardest thing about working on breakfast TV?

B: Definitely the worst thing was that I (0) *must* / ***had to*** / *have to* get up at four o'clock in the morning, so I (1) *must* / *has to* / *needed to* be in bed by eight at night, when all my friends were enjoying themselves.

A: Did you ever sleep late?

B: Oh, yes! Several times! The producer (2) *must* / *had to* / *need to* phone me to wake me up.

A: In your new job do you (3) *must* / *have to* / *needs to* spend a lot on clothes?

B: Yes, I (4) *must* / *have to* / *need* wear different clothes every day. It's in my contract!

A: (5) *Must* / *Has* / *Does* a TV presenter need to have any special qualifications?

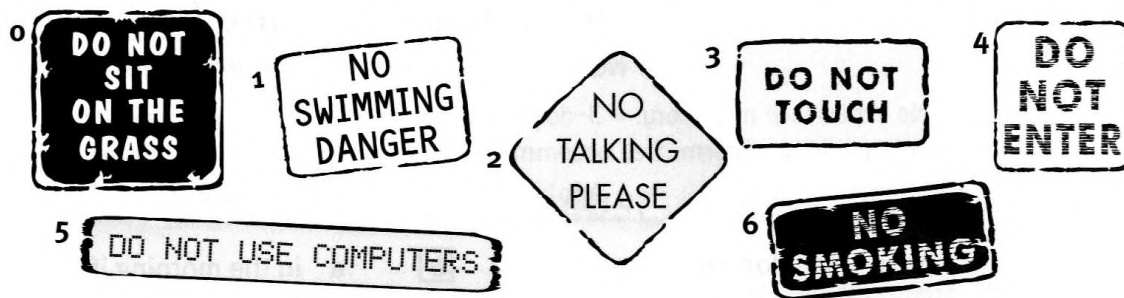
B: No, not really, but in my opinion, you (6) *must* / *has to* / *need* understand how the studio works, or you'll never be really good.

## 52 Prohibition: *mustn't*, *can't*, *not be allowed to*

- We use *mustn't*, *can't* and *not allowed to* to say that something is forbidden: *You **mustn't** tell anyone; it's a secret. Sorry, you **can't** eat or drink in here. They **aren't allowed to** have visitors in the hostel.*
- We use *couldn't* and *wasn't/weren't allowed to*, not *mustn't*, to say that something was forbidden in the past: *We **couldn't** play football in the street. I **wasn't allowed to** walk to school on my own.*

### PRACTICE

52a Look at the signs. Then complete the sentences. Use the words in brackets.



- 0 You ..... *aren't allowed to sit* ..... on the grass in the park. (allowed)
- 1 People ..... here. It's dangerous. (mustn't)
- 2 You ..... in the library. (allowed)
- 3 Visitors ..... the exhibits in the museum. (mustn't)
- 4 They ..... the building without permission. (couldn't)
- 5 Students ..... the computers without permission. (can't)
- 6 We ..... in the restaurant last night. (allowed)

### 52b Complete the article. Use the words in the box.

can't / leave   ~~can't / sit~~   couldn't / have   mustn't / talk  
not allowed / do   not allowed / drink   not allowed / listen

Mick hates his new job. He and his colleagues have to work long hours, but they (0) ..... **can't sit** ..... down and they (1) ..... to the radio. They (2) ..... to each other either. They (3) ..... anything except work! Yesterday Mick felt ill, but he (4) ..... a rest because he was so busy. He (5) ..... even ..... a glass of water. The problem is that the job's well-paid and he needs the money, so he (6) .....

## 53 Lack of necessity: *don't have to*, *don't need to*

- We use *don't have to*, *didn't have to*, *don't need to* and *didn't need to* to say that something is not or was not necessary: *You **don't have to** wait for me. I'll come later. I **didn't need to** take a jacket – it was quite hot.*

⚠ *Must* and *have to* are similar, but *mustn't* and *don't have to* are different. Compare: *I **mustn't** go.* (It's forbidden to go.) *I **don't have to** go.* (It isn't necessary for me to go. I can decide.)

▶▶ *For mustn't, see Unit 52.*

## PRACTICE

### 53a Match the sentence halves.

#### Work in our Adventure Park

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- |                           |                                     |                                        |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 0 You don't have to do    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | a in the morning if you don't want to. |
| 1 You don't have to train | <input type="checkbox"/>            | b the same thing every day.            |
| 2 You don't have to work  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | c your own uniform.                    |
| 3 You don't have to pay   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | d a car to work.                       |
| 4 You don't need to drive | <input type="checkbox"/>            | e for your accommodation.              |
| 5 You don't need to buy   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | f for a long time.                     |
| 6 You don't need to have  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | g any experience.                      |

**53b** Circle the correct answer.

- 0 You mustn't / *don't have to* say things like that. It's cruel.
- 1 Oh, it's only Monday. I *mustn't* / *don't need to* return my library books today.
- 2 When we were children, my brother *mustn't* / *didn't have to* do the washing up.
- 3 Office workers *mustn't usually* / *don't usually have to* work at weekends.
- 4 Emma *didn't have to* / *doesn't need to* wait very long at the doctor's yesterday.
- 5 You *mustn't* / *don't have to* be late for the coach. It leaves at six.
- 6 We *mustn't* / *didn't need to* spend a lot on holiday. Everything was very cheap.

**53c** Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the words in brackets.

- 0 I ate a big lunch before I went, so I ..... *didn't need to eat* ..... there. (need to / eat)
- 1 We ..... any food. The fridge was already full. (need to / get)
- 2 Now he's retired from football, he ..... every day. (have to / train)
- 3 The flowers were lovely, but you ..... me anything! (need to / give)
- 4 You ..... smart clothes to the party. Jeans are fine. (have to / wear)
- 5 Lucie ..... to town. Her sister took her in the car. (have to / walk)
- 6 Why is Mary buying shoes again? She ..... any more! (need to / buy)
- 7 The house is in perfect condition. They ..... it. (need to / paint)
- 8 I ..... last night. We went out to eat. (have to / cook)

**54** Advice: *should*, *ought to*, *must*

- We use *should* and *ought to* to give advice: You **should** stay at college. You **ought to help** her. (It's a good thing to do.) You **shouldn't** leave. You **ought not to spend** so much money. (It's not a good thing to do.)
- We often use *should* to ask for advice: What **should** we do?
- ⚠ We often use *think* in negative sentences and questions: I **don't think** you **should** worry. (You shouldn't worry.) **Do you think I should** buy a new shirt?
- We also use *must/mustn't* to give strong advice: You **must** go and see his new film! You **mustn't** forget to visit the castle on the hill.

# PRACTICE

## 54a Write sentences.

- 0 you / should / take / more exercise  
*You should take more exercise.*  
.....
- 1 you / must / try / the new kebab restaurant  
.....
- 2 I / should / eat / more vegetables?  
.....
- 3 she / should / not / go out / every night  
.....
- 4 I / think / they / ought / join / a gym  
.....
- 5 you / think / I / should / get / a haircut?  
.....
- 6 you / ought / not / watch / so much TV  
.....

## 54b Complete the letters. Use the words in the box.

mustn't   ought to drink   ought to talk   should also try  
should I   ~~should take~~   shouldn't do

