

43 Must/have to, mustn't/don't 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?*

Practice

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.

B Look at the signs and complete the sentences with *don't have to* or *mustn't*.

ANTIQUES
Please feel free to come in.
(No eating inside.)

- ▶ You *don't have to*..... go in.
- ▶ You *mustn't*..... eat inside.

Entry possible
30 minutes
before the concert.
No late arrivals
allowed.

- 1 arrive half an hour early.
- 2 You arrive late.

All vehicles – **slow**.
Drivers of large
vehicles, wait for
guard before crossing.

- 3 Small vehicles wait.
- 4 Drivers of large vehicles cross alone.

STUDENTS!
Please be quiet –
4th-year exam
in progress.

- 5 Students make a noise.
- 6 Third-year students take the exam.

LIBRARY
No talking.
Please leave books
on tables.

- 7 You talk in the library.
- 8 You put the books back on the shelves.

SWIMMING POOL
Free swim today.
No eating.
No drinking.

- 9 Swimmers pay today.
- 10 Swimmers eat or drink by the pool.

C Put the words in the box in the gaps. Don't add any other words.

Does she have to has she has must mustn't ~~have~~ does she

Mark: We (▶) *have*..... to get up early tomorrow.

Bob: Why?

Mark: Have you forgotten? Angela (1)..... to move to a new flat tomorrow, and I promised we would help her.

Bob: (2)..... have to move out by a particular time?

Mark: No, there's no rush. She doesn't (3)..... leave her old flat before the afternoon, but there are lots of things that (4)..... to pack, so we (5)..... get there fairly early.

Bob: Why (6)..... have to move, by the way?

Mark: She said that I (7)..... tell you because she wants to tell you herself, when she sees you tomorrow.