Have to (objective obligation)

We often use **have to** to say that something is obligatory, for example:

- Children **have to** go to school.

**Structure of Have to**

**Have to** is often grouped with modal auxiliary verbs for convenience, but in fact it is **not** a modal verb. It is not even an auxiliary verb. In the **have to** structure, "have" is a **main verb**. The structure is:

subject + auxiliary verb + **have** + infinitive (with **to**)

Look at these examples in the simple tense:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>subject</th>
<th>auxiliary verb</th>
<th>main verb <strong>have</strong></th>
<th>infinitive (with <strong>to</strong>)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>+</td>
<td>She</td>
<td>has</td>
<td>to work.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-</td>
<td>I do not</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>to see the doctor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>?</td>
<td>Did you</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>to go to school?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Use of Have to**

In general, **have to** expresses **impersonal** obligation. The subject of **have to** is obliged or forced to act by a separate, external power (for example, the Law or school rules). **Have to** is **objective**. Look at these examples:

- In France, you **have to** drive on the right.
- In England, most schoolchildren **have to** wear a uniform.
- John **has to** wear a tie at work.

In each of the above cases, the obligation is not the subject's opinion or idea. The obligation is imposed from outside.

We can use **have to** in **all tenses**, and also with modal auxiliaries. We conjugate it just like any other main verb. Here are some examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>action</th>
<th>subject</th>
<th>auxiliary verb</th>
<th>main verb <strong>have</strong></th>
<th>infinitive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>past simple</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>had</td>
<td>to work</td>
<td>yesterday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>present simple</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>to work</td>
<td>today.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>future simple</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>will</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>to work tomorrow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>present continuous</td>
<td>She</td>
<td>is</td>
<td>having</td>
<td>to wait.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>present perfect</td>
<td>We</td>
<td>have</td>
<td>had</td>
<td>to change the time.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Must (subjective obligation)

We often use must to say that something is essential or necessary, for example:

- I must go.

Structure of Must

Must is a modal auxiliary verb. It is followed by a main verb. The structure is:

subject + must + main verb

The main verb is the base verb (infinitive without "to").

Look at these examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>subject</th>
<th>auxiliary must</th>
<th>main verb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>must</td>
<td>go home.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td>must</td>
<td>visit us.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td>must</td>
<td>stop now.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Like all auxiliary verbs, must CANNOT be followed by to. So, we say:

- I must go now. (not *I must to go now.)

Use of Must

In general, must expresses personal obligation. Must expresses what the speaker thinks is necessary. Must is subjective. Look at these examples:

- I must stop smoking.
- You must visit us soon.
- He must work harder.

In each of the above cases, the "obligation" is the opinion or idea of the person speaking. In fact, it is not a real obligation. It is not imposed from outside.

It is sometimes possible to use must for real obligation, for example a rule or a law. But generally we use have to for this.

We can use must to talk about the present or the future. Look at these examples:

- I must go now. (present)
- I must call my mother tomorrow. (future)
We cannot use *must* to talk about the *past*. We use *have to* to talk about the past.

### Must not, Mustn't (prohibition)

We use *must not* to say that something is not permitted or allowed, for example:

- Passengers *must not* talk to the driver.

#### Structure of Must not

**Must** is an *auxiliary verb*. It is followed by a *main verb*. The structure for *must not* is:

\[
\text{subject} + \text{must not} + \text{main verb}
\]

The main verb is the base verb (infinitive without "to").

**Must not** is often contracted to *mustn't*.

Look at these examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>subject</th>
<th>auxiliary <em>must + not</em></th>
<th>main verb</th>
<th>example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>mustn't</td>
<td>forget</td>
<td>I mustn't forget my keys.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You</td>
<td>mustn't</td>
<td>disturb</td>
<td>You mustn't disturb him.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>must not</td>
<td>be</td>
<td>Students must not be late.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NB:** like all auxiliary verbs, *must* **CANNOT** be followed by "to". So, we say:

- You *mustn't* arrive late. (*not* You mustn't to arrive late.)

#### Use of Must not

**Must not** expresses prohibition - something that is *not permitted, not allowed*. The prohibition can be subjective (the speaker's opinion) or objective (a real law or rule). Look at these examples:

- I *mustn't* eat so much sugar. (subjective)
- You *mustn't* watch so much television. (subjective)
- Students *must not* leave bicycles here. (objective)
- Policemen *must not* drink on duty. (objective)

We can use *must not* to talk about the *present* or the *future*:

- Visitors *must not* smoke. (present)
- I *mustn't* forget Tara's birthday. (future)

We cannot use *must not* to talk about the *past*. We use other structures to talk about the past, for example:

- We were not allowed to enter.
- I couldn't park outside the shop.
NOW CHECK YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

Have to, Must, Must not Quiz

1. Yesterday I finish my Geography project.
2. She will wait in line like everyone else.
3. All employees on time for work.
4. We forget to take the chicken out of the freezer.
5. If you are under 13 you to get your parents' permission.
6. Your daughter may try on a few different sizes.
7. The doctor get here as soon as he can.
8. Do you work next weekend?
9. Bicyclists remember to signal when they turn.
10. Angela, you leave your clothes all over the floor like this.