# 43 Must/have to, mustn't/don't have to



 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

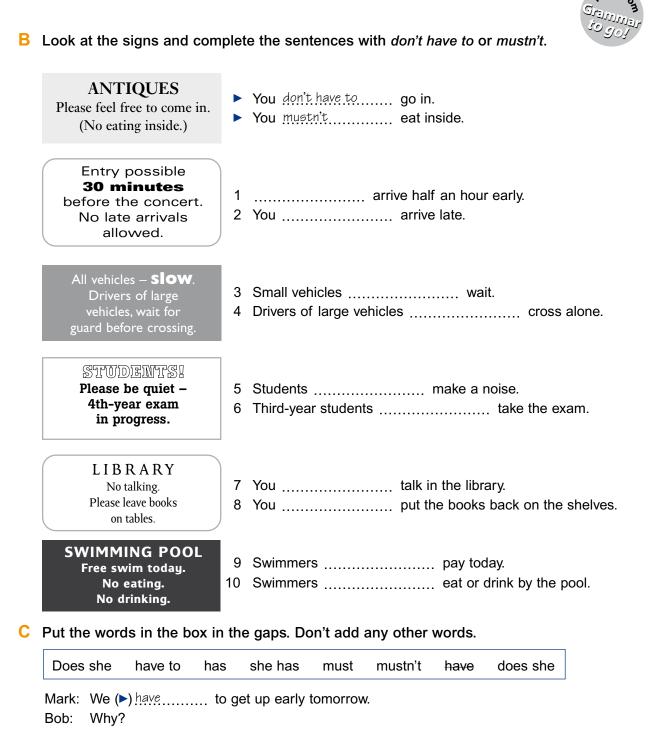
## But these things are not allowed:

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.

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- 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.

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