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. 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.

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

4. Drivers of large vehicles ______________ cross alone.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doesn’t she</th>
<th>have to</th>
<th>has</th>
<th>she has</th>
<th>must</th>
<th>mustn’t</th>
<th>have</th>
<th>does she</th>
</tr>
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</table>

Mark: We (►) ______________ 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.