



Learn English Through Stories

T Series

Upper - Intermediate

Adapted and modified by

Kulwant Singh Sandhu

<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>

Modal Verbs 4 by K S Sandhu

A Day of Rules

Tom had just started his new job in a big hospital. On his first morning, he asked his colleague, "Has he got to wear a uniform?" "Yes," replied Lisa. "Sylvia has to wear a uniform because she is a nurse. You have to wear one too. We had to get an application form last month. It was obligatory."

Tom nodded. "I understand. I must look professional." After work, Tom went to his sister's house. Serena was waiting for him. "My mobile phone is broken," she said. "I will have to get a new one tomorrow. Did you have to wait a long time when you bought yours?"

"Yes, it was terrible," Tom answered. "You must not buy the first one you see. You have got to compare the prices."

While they were talking, their cousin Henry arrived. He was reading a book. "Henry has got to wear glasses for reading," Serena explained. "And Caroline must do more exercise. The doctor said so."

Later, Tom went back to his new apartment. The car was very dirty. "You've got to wash it this weekend," he said to himself. "And you must lock the doors at night. It's important for safety."

His friend Mike came to help him set up the internet. "My wireless network is very slow," Tom complained. "What can I do?"

Mike replied, "You have to put the router in the centre of the house. It must not be next to the TV because it may interrupt the signals."

"Do I have to have a second phone line for broadband?" asked Tom.

"No, you don't have to have a separate line," said Mike. "You can use the same one. But listen – your neighbour's phone line runs across your garden. You must not use it! It's illegal. You will have to get your own line."

Tom smiled. "Is it true that you have to set up a special password?"

"You don't have to," Mike explained, "but it is a very good idea. It will prevent other people from using your connection without permission."

"Have you got to take your holiday before the end of August?" Tom asked.

"Yes, I have to," Mike replied. "The company rules say so. Darren had to wear glasses when he was young, and now he has to follow all the holiday rules too!"

That evening, Tom felt tired but happy. He had learned many important rules. "In life, we must follow some rules and we have to remember others," he thought. "But if we understand them, everything becomes easier."

Comprehension Questions:

Question 1: Where does Tom work?

Question 2: Why does Sylvia have to wear a uniform?

Question 3: What does Serena say she will have to do?

Question 4: What has Henry got to wear for reading?

Question 5: What must Tom do to his car at the weekend?

Question 6: Where does Mike say Tom has to put the router?

Question 7: Why must the router not be next to the TV?

Question 8: Is Tom allowed to use his neighbour's phone line? Why?

Question 9: Does Tom have to set up a password for his router?

Question 10: When has Mike got to take his holiday?

Answers:

Answer 1: Tom works in a big hospital.

Answer 2: Because she is a nurse.

Answer 3: She will have to get a new mobile phone.

Answer 4: Glasses.

Answer 5: He has got to wash it.

Answer 6: In the centre of the house.

Answer 7: Because it may interrupt the signals.

Answer 8: No, he must not use it because it is illegal.

Answer 9: No, he doesn't have to, but it is a good idea.

Answer 10: Before the end of August.

49 Rules *must*, *mustn't*, *have (got) to*



Do I **have to** buy a battery for it?

No, it's got a battery already. But you'll **have to charge** the battery at home before you can use it.

1 Form

PRESENT	<i>must</i> ¹	<i>I must go now. You must not (mustn't) smoke here. Must we leave now?</i>
	<i>have to</i>	<i>You have to leave now. They don't have to work today. Do I have to pay?</i>
	<i>have got to</i> ²	<i>I have ('ve) got to pay my phone bill. He hasn't got to work today. Has she got to work today?</i>
PAST	<i>had to</i>	<i>We had to buy a new TV. We didn't have to pay. Did you have to get a visa?</i>
FUTURE	<i>will have to</i>	<i>You'll have to leave soon. We won't have to pay. Will she have to get a visa?</i>

¹ *Must* is a modal verb. *Have to* and *have got to* are not modal verbs.

² *Have got to* is not the same as *have got* (► Unit 26.2).

NATURAL ENGLISH We can ask questions with *must*, but it is more common to use *have to*: **Must we answer all the questions?** → **Do we have to answer all the questions?**

2 Positive rules and necessary actions

We use *have to* to say that something is necessary, or is a rule:

*The taxi's here. We **have to leave** now. (necessary)*
*All car passengers **have to wear** a seat belt. (a rule)*
*Do I **have to buy** batteries? (Is it necessary?)*

NATURAL ENGLISH In informal British English we often use *have got to*. It means the same as *have to*.

We also use *must* but it is less common than *have (got) to*. We usually use *must* for

- a rule given by the speaker to another person, or to himself/herself:
*You **must wear** your coat; it's cold outside. (parent to young child)*
*I **must lose** some weight. (I think I should do this.)*
- instructions (often in writing and with a passive verb):
*Answers **must be written** in ink. (exam instructions)*

We don't use *must* or *have got to* for past or future situations, we use forms of *have to*:

PAST *We **had to have** visas to visit China last year.*

FUTURE *You'll **have to charge** the battery before you can use it.*

3 Negative rules

We use *can't* or *not allowed to* to say that there is a rule NOT to do something:

*You **can't smoke** here. We're **not allowed to use** calculators in the exam.*

We can also use *must not*, but usually only for explaining rules and in instructions:

*Remember, children, you **mustn't ride** your bikes on the grass.*
*These lights **must not be used** outdoors.*

To talk about negative rules in the past or future we use *be allowed to* (► Unit 52.3):

*I **wasn't allowed to do** that when I was a child. We **won't be allowed to check in** until later.*



If there is NO rule to say something is necessary, we use *don't have to*, NOT *mustn't*.

Compare: *You **don't have to eat** in here, you can eat outside if you prefer. (You have a choice.)*

*You **mustn't eat** in here. (You don't have a choice. You have to eat somewhere else.)*

Practice

1 Write the words in the correct order to make sentences or questions.

Ⓜ 3.32 Listen and check.

0 has the see dentist Clare tomorrow to

Clare has to see the dentist tomorrow.

1 got he has wear a uniform to ?

2 application form we to had get an

3 to will mobile phone a Serena have get new

4 did to wait you a long time have ?

5 leave guests before must midday their hotel rooms

2 GRAMMAR IN USE Choose the correct words in *italics>. In two places, both answers are correct. Ⓜ 3.33 Listen and check.*

FAQs

Setting up a broadband connection and wireless network in your home.

► My wireless network is very slow and sometimes it doesn't work. What can I do to improve it?

The most important thing is the position of your router (the machine that sends out the wireless signals). You (0) *are allowed to / have to* put it in the centre of the house. And it (1) *mustn't be / doesn't have to be* next to a TV or computer as they may interrupt the signals.

► I've only got one phone line. (2) *Do I have to / Must I* have a second line for a broadband connection?

No, you (3) *don't have to / mustn't* have a separate phone line, you can use one line.

► I don't have a phone line in my house but my neighbour's phone line runs across the front of my house. (4) *Am I allowed to / Have I got to* use his line for my Internet connection?

No. You (5) *don't have to / aren't allowed to* use somebody else's phone line; it's illegal! In any case, it wouldn't work. You will (6) *must / have to* get your own phone line, I'm afraid.

► Is it true that (7) *you have to / it must be* to set up a special password?

No, you (8) *haven't got to / don't have to* set up a password for your router, but it is a good idea to do so, as it will prevent other people using your connection.

3 Find five more mistakes and correct them. Tick (✓) the correct sentence.

0 Sylvia **has to** wear a uniform because she is a nurse. ✓

00 Henry **has** ^{got}~~get~~ to wear glasses for reading.

1 Caroline **must to** do more exercise.

2 Do you **got to** take your holiday before the end of August?

3 You **must** lock the doors at night.

4 The car is very dirty; you've **got** wash it.

5 Have you **allowed to** park there?

6 Darren **must** wear glasses when he was young.

Answers

UNIT 49

- 1** 1 Has he got to wear a uniform?
2 We had to get an application form.
3 Serena will have to get a new mobile phone.
4 Did you have to wait a long time?
5 Guests must leave their hotel rooms before midday.
- 2** 1 mustn't be 2 Do I have to/Must I 3 don't have to 4 Am I allowed to 5 aren't allowed to 6 have to 7 you have to 8 haven't got to/ don't have to
- 3** 1 ~~must to~~ do 2 ~~Do you get to~~ Do you have/have you got 3 ✓ 4 you've got to 5 ~~Have~~ Are 6 ~~must~~ had to