

# UNIT 32 Must and have to

a) We use **must (do)** and **have to (do)** to say that it is necessary to do something. Often it doesn't matter which you use:

- Oh dear, it's later than I thought. I **{ must / have to }** go now.
- You **{ must / have to }** have a passport to visit most foreign countries.

There is sometimes a difference between **must** and **have to**. With **must** the speaker is giving his own feelings, saying what *he* thinks is necessary:

- I **must** write to Ann. I haven't written to her for ages. (= The speaker personally feels that he must write to Ann.)
- The government really **must** do something about unemployment. (= The speaker personally feels that the government must do something.)

With **have to** the speaker is not giving his own feelings. He is just giving facts. For example:

- Ann's eyes are not very good. She **has to** wear glasses for reading.
- I can't meet you on Friday. I **have to** work.

b) You can only use **must** to talk about the *present* and *future*:

- We **must** go now.
- **Must** you leave tomorrow?

**Have to** can be used in all forms. For example:

- I **had to** go to hospital. (*past*)
- I **might have to** go to hospital. (*infinitive*)
- **Have you ever had to** go to hospital. (*present perfect*)

Note that we use **do/does/did** with **have to** in present and past questions and negative sentences:

- What **do I have to** do to get a driving licence? (*not* 'have I to do')
- Why **did you have to** go to hospital? (*not* 'had you to go')
- Tom **doesn't have to** work on Saturdays. (*not* 'hasn't to work')

c) **Mustn't** and **don't have to** are completely different. 'You **mustn't** do something' means: 'it is necessary that you do *not* do it':

- You **mustn't** tell anyone what I said. (= Don't tell anyone.)
- I promised I'd be on time. I **mustn't** be late. (= I must be on time.)

See also Unit 33a.

'You **don't have to** do something' means: 'it is not necessary to do it; you don't need to do it':

- I **don't have to** wear a suit to work but I usually do.
- She stayed in bed this morning because she **didn't have to** go to work.

d) You can use 'have got to' instead of **have to**. So you can say:

- I've **got to** work tomorrow or I **have to** work tomorrow.
- When **has** Tom **got to** leave? or When **does** Tom **have to** leave?

# UNIT 32 Exercises

**32.1** Complete these sentences with **must** or **have to** (in its correct form). Sometimes it is possible to use either; sometimes only **have to** is possible.

Examples: Well, it's 10 o'clock. I ..... **must (or have to)** go now.  
Ann was feeling ill last night. She ..... **had to** leave the party early.

- 1 You really ..... work harder if you want to pass that examination.
- 2 Many children in Britain ..... wear uniform when they go to school.
- 3 Last night Don suddenly became ill. We ..... call the doctor.
- 4 Ann has ..... wear glasses since she was eight years old.
- 5 I'm afraid I can't come tomorrow. I ..... work late.
- 6 I'm sorry I couldn't come yesterday. I ..... work late.
- 7 Tom may ..... go away next week.
- 8 We couldn't repair the car ourselves. We ..... take it to a garage.
- 9 When you come to London again, you ..... come and see us.

**32.2** Now make questions with **have to**.

Example: 'Tom had to go to the police station.'  
'Why ..... **did he have to go to the police station?** .....

- 1 'Ann has to leave tomorrow.' 'What time exactly .....
- 2 'We had to answer a lot of questions in the examination.'  
'How many questions .....
- 3 'George had to pay a parking fine.' 'How much .....
- 4 'I have to get up early tomorrow.' 'Why .....

**32.3** This time make negative sentences with **have to**.

Example: 'Did they change trains?'  
'No, it was a through train so ..... **they didn't have to change (trains).** .....

- 1 'Did you pay to get into the concert?'  
'No, we had free tickets so we .....
- 2 'Does Jack shave?' 'No, he's got a beard so .....
- 3 'Did you get up early this morning?'  
'No, it's my day off so .....
- 4 'Do you work?' 'No, I'm extremely rich so .....

**32.4** Complete these sentences with **mustn't** or **don't/doesn't have to**.

Examples: I don't want anyone to know. You ..... **mustn't** tell anyone what I said.  
I ..... **don't have to** wear a suit to work but I usually do.

- 1 I can stay in bed tomorrow morning because I ..... work.
- 2 Whatever you do, you ..... touch that switch. It's very dangerous.
- 3 You ..... forget what I told you. It's very important.
- 4 She ..... get up so early. She gets up early because she prefers to.
- 5 We ..... leave yet. We've got plenty of time.