

HAVE TO / DON'T HAVE TO

A2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Talk about obligations and things that are optional.

1. READ: Starting a new job

Read the conversation. Notice the bold obligation phrases.

Sara: It's my first day tomorrow. **Do I have to wear** a uniform?

Max: No, you **don't have to wear** one. Just choose comfortable clothes.

Sara: Good. What time do we start?

Max: We **have to be** there at nine. Jo **has to arrive** earlier to open up.

Sara: Okay. **Does** she **have to bring** her own lunch?

Max: No, she **doesn't have to**. There's a cafe downstairs. We can go together.

2. GRAMMAR: Necessary or optional?

Use have to / has to for obligations. Don't have to / doesn't have to means something isn't necessary.

Form	Pattern	Example
Positive	have to / has to + verb	She has to start at nine.
Negative	don't / doesn't have to + verb	I don't have to work today.
Question	Do / Does ... have to + verb?	Does he have to book?

Use **has to** with he / she / it, but **have to** after does / doesn't.

You don't have to bring lunch = you can bring it, but it isn't necessary.

You mustn't eat here = it isn't allowed. This is different from **don't have to**.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct form. The example answer is bold: She **has to** / have to work.

1. We have to / has to leave at six.
2. He have to / has to wear a badge.
3. She doesn't have to / doesn't has to pay.
4. Do / Does you have to book?
5. Does he have to / has to bring ID?
6. They have to wait / waiting outside.
7. Entry is free. You don't have to / mustn't pay.
8. No, I don't / haven't. (Do you have to work?)

Read each answer aloud. Check the subject, the noun or the clue.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: A weekend course

Use have to, has to, don't have to or doesn't have to. Read the rules and choices.

Mia: The course starts at nine. We (1) _____ arrive by 8:45 to register.

Ben: Okay. I'll set an alarm. What about notebooks?

Mia: We (2) _____ bring any. The teacher gives everyone one.

Ben: My sister is coming too. She's seventeen.

Mia: Then she (3) _____ bring a form signed by a parent. That's the rule.

Ben: There's free parking, so she (4) _____ pay to park.

Mia: Good. I (5) _____ leave at eight to catch my bus.

Ben: I'll pick you up instead. Then you (6) _____ take the bus.

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Make questions.

Example: She has to work. **Does she have to work?**

1. You have to bring a laptop.

2. Jo has to work on Saturday.

3-4: Say it isn't necessary. Make negative sentences. Example: We have to book. **We don't have to book.**

3. I have to wear a uniform.

4. He has to buy a ticket.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three true sentences about school, work or home. Include one thing that isn't necessary.

Example: **I have to arrive on time. I have to do my homework. I don't have to wear a uniform.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

1. Compare school or work routines. Ask: **Do you have to start early?**

Ask one follow-up question and find something that isn't necessary.

2. Imagine a weekend course. Agree on two things students have to do and one optional thing.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: Starting a new job

Sample target language from the conversation:

Sara: It's my first day tomorrow. **Do I have to wear** a uniform?

Max: No, you **don't have to wear** one. Just choose comfortable clothes.

Max: We **have to be** there at nine. Jo **has to arrive** earlier to open up.

Sara: Okay. **Does** she **have to bring** her own lunch?

Max: No, she **doesn't have to**. There's a cafe downstairs. We can go together.

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| 1. have to | 2. has to |
| 3. doesn't have to | 4. Do |
| 5. have to | 6. wait |
| 7. don't have to | 8. don't |

B. COMPLETE: A weekend course

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. have to | 2. don't have to |
| 3. has to | 4. doesn't have to |
| 5. have to | 6. don't have to |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. Do you have to bring a laptop?
2. Does Jo have to work on Saturday?
3. I don't have to wear a uniform.
4. He doesn't have to buy a ticket.

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: I have to arrive on time. I have to do my homework. I don't have to wear a uniform.

Teacher note: Don't have to means not necessary, not forbidden. B has explicit rules and optional choices. In C3-4, students change the meaning as instructed. Accept correct personal obligations and optional activities in D/E.