

8 Fair trade

Obligation and permission

1 Match the forms in bold with their best descriptions a-e below.

- 1 You **have to** do it.
 - 2 You **must** do it.
 - 3 You **don't have to** do it.
 - 4 You **mustn't** do it.
 - 5 You **can** do it.
 - 6 You **can't** do it.
- a) You have permission.
 - b) It is not necessary.
 - c) It is prohibited (forbidden) or You do not have permission.
 - d) It is necessary. I am telling you.
 - e) It is necessary. The rules say so.

2 Read the notes in the box then do the exercise below.

There is no real difference between *must* and *have to* in writing. In speech there is a very small difference: *must* can suggest that the speaker decides what is necessary.

have to can suggest the necessity comes from the situation.

Complete the sentences with the most likely form, *must* or *have to*. Remember that this is not a 100% rule, and both are possible in all the sentences.

- 1 I _____ go on a diet – these trousers don't fit any more!
- 2 I _____ go on a diet – the doctor says that I am overweight.
- 3 This is the text the teacher gave us. We _____ read it for homework. We're going to discuss it in class tomorrow.
- 4 This book is really good – you _____ read it.

3 In very formal language (such as legal documents) you can use *shall* to express obligation. Match the words in bold below with some words in bold from Exercise 1 (so that the meaning is the same).

- 1 You **shall** do it. _____ and _____.
- 2 You **shall not** do it. _____ and _____.

The most common use for *shall* is making suggestions, and in this case we only use it with *I/we*: *Shall we stop for lunch?* But in the formal use for obligation mentioned above it can be used with *you/he/she/it/they* as well.

4 The forms in bold below are other ways to express obligation and permission. At the end of each sentence write the words in bold from Exercise 1 that have the same meaning. You might write the same words twice.

- 1 You **need to** do it. _____ and _____.
- 2 You **needn't** do it. _____.
- 3 You're **allowed to** do it. _____.
- 4 You're **not allowed to** do it. _____ and _____.
- 5 You've **got to** do it. _____ and _____.

5 Be careful with the word *may*. It can indicate permission in a formal context, or it can indicate possibility (approximately a 50:50 chance of something happening).

Look at the use of *may* in the sentences below and write 'permission' or 'possibility' at the end.

- 1 Visitors **may** use the swimming pool between 5.30 and 7.30pm. _____
- 2 There **may** be an easier way of solving the problem. _____
- 3 **May** I use your phone? _____
- 4 You **may** go home now if you want. _____
- 5 You **may** be asked to show your passport. _____
- 6 Some chemicals **may** cause environmental damage. _____
- 7 You **may** not use this equipment unless you have been on a training course. _____
- 8 You **may** not believe me, but it's true. _____

When *may* is used for possibility (as in 2, 5, 6 and 8 in Exercise 5) we can use *might* with the same meaning. We cannot do this for the other sentences.

6 Underline the correct words in bold.

- 1 I'm sorry, this is a non-smoking area – you **haven't got to/can't** smoke here.
- 2 You **mustn't/don't have to** come if you are busy, but it would be nice to see you.
- 3 Ethical behaviour is important – you **mustn't/needn't** accept bribes.
- 4 You **mustn't/needn't** take an umbrella – I've got a spare one in the car.
- 5 You **don't have to/can't** enter the USA without a visa.
- 6 This report is confidential – you **mustn't/needn't** show it to anyone.
- 7 You **must/aren't allowed to** maintain the equipment in good condition.
- 8 You **mustn't/don't have to** do that, I'll do it tomorrow.
- 9 You **mustn't/don't have to** do that, it's dangerous.
- 10 All payments **shall/mustn't** be made within 30 working days.
- 11 If you want to smoke, you **shall/may** go outside.
- 12 Don't worry, the law states that you **shall/may** receive all the money that is owing to you.