

Modals of Obligation

Must: ☹️

Save it for: formal *rules* (UK+US) (also *prohibitions* – mustn't)

Logical conclusions (UK+US): e.g. I've heard it from 6 manager students so it **MUST** be true.

UK: Self-imposed obligations, e.g. Sorry, I really must be going now.

Have to: 😊

General obligations from outside of you

= muset in Czech, also good for nemuset

I don't have to think!

[*need to* is a slightly softer version of *have to*, so it's good for polite commands]

US: Self-imposed obligations, e.g. Sorry, I have to go now.

Should: ☹️

Save it for recommendations, moral obligations

e.g. You should stop complaining about your wonderful English teachers 😊

I should visit my grandmother more often. She loves me.

[*Ought to* works exactly like *should*]

To be supposed to: 😊

Use it when you are expected to do something or you have agreed to do it.

e.g. The bus was supposed arrive at 5 pm but it is already 3 hours late.

I was supposed to help my mum with the tidying up but I got distracted talking with Gotye on Skype.