

Teacher notes and answers

RUL1 · A2-B1 · Adults and teens · About 40-50 minutes · No audio needed

Keep it simple

Give learners pages 1-4. Page 5 is optional homework. Keep this answer page separate. The aim is to explain necessary, forbidden and optional actions, then ask about rules. All signs and messages are original examples in a fictional setting.

A straightforward route

1. Pictures (5-7 min): use page 1 as before. Ask what learners see, what the problem is and what rule might help. Pictures suggest problems; they do not prove a rule.
2. Language (8-10 min): read page 2 together. Check "Do you have a choice?" Accept must and have to for a necessary action.
3. Messages (10-12 min): learners check Alex's four texts against the signs, compare answers, then ask and answer the four questions. Swap who asks. One-to-one, take the other role.
4. Speaking (15-20 min): choose a page-4 place and agree three rules. Then use the questions for personal conversation. Give one useful correction and let the learner try again.

The language to make clear

Must / have to: both express necessity. Have to often reports a rule; must often gives a firm instruction. This is a tendency, not a strict division. Do not mark a natural alternative wrong.

Mustn't: forbidden. Don't have to: not necessary, but allowed. Ask: "Can I still wear a badge?" Yes.

Forms: Sam has to; Does Sam have to...? Sam doesn't have to. Must stays the same with all subjects and takes no to. This lesson covers present obligation, not deduction or past forms.

Answers

Page 2: 1 don't have to; 2 mustn't; 3 must; 4 has to.

Page 3: 1 You must / have to sign in. 2 Correct. 3 You don't have to bring your own laptop; you can borrow one. 4 You don't have to wear a badge; you may wear one if you like. The garden is the supplied place for calls. Accept accurate paraphrases.

Page 5: 1 must / have to; 2 mustn't; 3 don't have to; 4 must / has to; 5 doesn't have to; 6 don't have to; 7 You must sign in. 8 Does Sam have to wear a badge?

A possible reply: You have to sign in. You mustn't make calls in the workroom. You don't have to bring a laptop. Other accurate replies are welcome.

Support and follow-up

For a shorter lesson, use pages 1-3 and two speaking questions. Allow thinking time and keep page 2 visible. Stronger learners can explain or challenge a rule. Page-4 rules and discussion have no single answer: listen for a clear meaning and a sensible reason. No booking puzzle, private sheets or surprise change is needed. Timing is an estimate; this revision has not been classroom tested.

Grammar reference: British Council, Modals: permission and obligation.

learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/free-resources/grammar/b1-b2/modals-permission-obligation