Modal Verbs 2 – Obligation/ Prohibition, Necessity, Advice – Exercise Sheet 2 - Answers

Exercise 1: Conversation – Fill in the Blanks with Correct Modal Verb (Answers)

Alex: Hey Mia, I'm really nervous about my driving test tomorrow.

Mia: Don't worry! You **should** practice a bit more today, but you'll be fine. ✅ *(Should is used for advice.)*

Alex: I know, but I **have to** remember all the traffic signs and rules. ✅ *(Have to is used for necessity.)*

Mia: That's true. You **must** stop completely at stop signs, and you **must** wear your seatbelt at all times. ✅ *(Must is used for rules and laws, have to can also be used when speaking)*

Alex: And if I make a mistake?

Mia: Well, you **should** stay calm and keep driving. If it's a small mistake, they won't fail you immediately. ✅ *(Should is used for advice, we could also use ought to.)*

Alex: Okay. Do I **have to** bring any documents with me? ✅ *(Have to is used for necessity, 'Must I' is possible but very formal, less common.)*

Mia: Yes, you **must** take your learner's permit and ID. ✅ *(Must is used for strict obligations.)*

Alex: What if I arrive late?

Mia: You **must** be on time! If you're late, they might cancel your test. ✅ *(Must is used for strong obligations, have to can also be used.)*

Alex: Got it. Thanks, Mia!

Exercise 2: News Report (More Challenging) – Fill in the Blanks with Correct Modal Verb (Answers)

New Safety Rules for Public Transport

Starting next Monday, passengers **must** follow new safety regulations on buses and trains. ✅ *(Must is used for strict regulations.)*

All passengers **have to** wear a face mask while traveling, and they **must** use hand sanitizer before boarding. ✅ *(Have to and must both express obligation.)*

The new rules state that commuters **mustn't** talk loudly or make phone calls to avoid disturbing others. ✅ *(Mustn't is used for prohibitions.)*

However, passengers **don't have to** worry too much, as there are no fines for first-time violations. ✅ *(Don't have to means it's optional.)*

Transport officials say that people **should** follow these rules to keep everyone safe. ✅ *(Should is used for advice.)*

Passengers **don't have to** purchase tickets online in advance, but it is recommended to avoid long lines. ✅ *(Don't have to means it's optional.)*

The government **ought to** take more steps to improve public transport safety in the coming months. ✅ *(Ought to is a formal way to give advice.)*

For more information, citizens **should** check the official website of the transport authority. ✅ *(Should is used for advice.)*

Key Takeaways

✅ **Must**
✓ Used for **laws, rules, and obligations** (*You must wear a seatbelt.*)
✓ Used for **strong recommendations** (*You must try this restaurant!*)
✓ **Negative (mustn't) means prohibition** (*You mustn't park here; it's illegal.*)

✅ **Have to**
✓ Used for **necessity** (*You have to finish your homework.*)
✓ Used in **spoken language instead of must** (*We have to be there by 8 AM.*)
✓ **Negative (don't have to) means optional** (*You don't have to bring food; we have enough.*)

✅ **Should**
✓ Used for **advice** (*You should eat more vegetables.*)
✓ Used for **recommendations** (*You should watch this movie; it's great!*)
✓ Used for **expectations (not covered in this section)** (*He should be home soon.*)

✅ **Ought to**
✓ Has the **same meaning as should** but is **more formal** (*We ought to leave now.*)
✓ **Rarely used in negative and question forms**