



ENGLISH GRAMMAR 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Unit 32 – Must / mustn't / needn't

tienganh



Must / mustn't / needn't

MUST AND MUSTN'T

A

MUST AND MUSTN'T

- ❖ **You must do something** = it is necessary that you do it:
 - EX1: Don't tell anybody what I said. You **must keep** it a secret.
 - EX2: We don't have much time. We **must hurry**.
- ❖ **You mustn't do something** = don't do it:
 - EX3: You must keep it a secret. You **mustn't tell** anyone. (= *don't tell anyone*)
 - EX4: We must be very quiet. We **mustn't make** any noise.

B

NEEDN'T AND DON'T NEED TO

- You needn't do something** = it's not necessary to do it (but you can if you want):
 - EX5: We have plenty of time. We **needn't hurry**. (= it is not necessary to hurry)
 - EX6: Joe can stay here. He **needn't come** with us. (= it is not necessary for him to come)
- ❖ You can also use **don't/doesn't need to**:
 - EX7: We don't need to hurry.
- ❖ Note that we say "**don't need to do**", but "**needn't do**" (without to).
- Compare needn't and mustn't:**
 - EX8: You **needn't tell** Steve. I can tell him myself. (= *it is not necessary*)
 - EX9: You **mustn't tell** Steve. I don't want him to know. (= *don't tell him*)

Must / mustn't / needn't

NEEDN'T HAVE DONE

C



Paul and Sarah reserved a table at a restaurant. But when they went to the restaurant, it was almost empty.

They needn't have reserved a table.

This means: they reserved a table, but now they know this was not necessary.

Compare **needn't (do)** and **needn't have (done)**:

- EX10: Everything will be OK. You needn't worry. (it is not necessary)
- EX11: Everything was OK. You needn't have worried. (you worried, but it was not necessary)

Must / mustn't / needn't

NEEDN'T HAVE DONE AND DIDN'T NEED TO

D

- ❖ **He needn't have done something** = he did it, but now we know that it was not necessary
 - EX12: Why did he get up at 5 o'clock? He **needn't have got** up so early. He could have stayed in bed longer.
 - ❖ **He didn't need to do something** = it was not necessary to do it. It doesn't matter whether he did it or not:
 - EX13: He **didn't need to get** up early, so he didn't.
 - EX14: He **didn't need to get** up early, but it was a beautiful morning, so he did.
- You can also say “**He didn't have to get up**” in these examples.

Must / mustn't / needn't

BÀI TẬP NHANH

Select the option which best completes the sentences below:

I _____, so I stayed at home.

A. needn't go

B. needn't have gone out

C. didn't need to go out

D. mustn't have gone

Must / mustn't / needn't



TÓM TẮT

1. **Must** nghĩa là **phải làm** một việc gì đó, nhưng **“mustn't do something”** không có nghĩa **“không phải làm”** mà có nghĩa **“không được (phép) làm”** một việc gì đó - *You must keep it a secret. You mustn't tell anyone.*
2. **“Needn't do something”** hoặc **“don't need to do something”** đều có nghĩa **“không nhất thiết, không cần thiết”** làm một việc gì đó. Lưu ý, sau **needn't** là động từ nguyên mẫu không **“to”** (*infinitive*) còn sau **don't need** phải là **“to infinitive”** - *We don't need to hurry.*
3. **“Needn't have done”** được dùng trong tình huống chủ ngữ đã làm một việc gì đó trong quá khứ mà anh ta không cần làm vào thời điểm đó - *They needn't have reserved a table.*
4. **“Needn't have done”** được dùng trong tình huống người nói đã làm một việc gì đó, nhưng việc đó là không cần thiết (lẽ ra đã không cần làm ...) Còn **“didn't need to do something”** nghĩa là người nói đã không cần thiết phải làm một việc gì đó, nhưng việc anh ta có làm việc đó hay không không quan trọng - *He didn't need to get up early, so he didn't.*