

What is the Modal Verb Must?

Worksheet

Must expresses strong necessity ('I must leave now'), obligation ('You must follow rules'), prohibition ('You mustn't cheat'), and logical certainty ('It must be 3 o'clock').

Questions

1. 'You must wear a seatbelt.' This is...
 - A) Advice
 - B) A rule or law
 - C) A permission
 - D) An expectation
2. Which is stronger?
 - A) should
 - B) must
 - C) can
 - D) could
3. 'You mustn't shout in class.' This means...
 - A) You don't have to
 - B) It's forbidden
 - C) It's not advised
 - D) It's impossible
4. 'The answer must be 5.' This suggests...
 - A) Advice
 - B) Logical certainty
 - C) A rule
 - D) A guess
5. I must leave now or I'll be late.
6. You must obey the traffic law.
7. You mustn't cheat on the exam.
8. Define: What does 'must' express?
9. Define: Difference: 'must' vs 'should'?
10. Define: Can 'must' show certainty?

Answer Key

1. B) A rule or law — 'Must' expresses a mandatory rule or legal requirement.
2. B) must — 'Must' is the strongest obligation modal.
3. B) It's forbidden — 'Mustn't' is absolute prohibition.
4. B) Logical certainty — 'Must' can mean we're almost certain.
5. 'Must' shows strong necessity. There's no choice — I have to go.
6. 'Must' expresses an obligation or rule. It's mandatory, not optional.
7. 'Must not' (mustn't) is a prohibition. It is absolutely forbidden.
8. Strong necessity, obligation, rules, requirements, and prohibitions.
9. 'Must' = requirement; 'should' = advice or duty.
10. Yes. 'It must be 3 PM.' means we're almost certain.

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