



## 27 HAVE TO/ NEED TO IMPORTANT MAIL

Wentworth: Oh my God!  
Sarah: What's the matter?  
Wentworth: I brought my mail today because I overslept and couldn't have a proper look. I'm expecting some important mail.  
Sarah: did you undergo health examinations?  
Wentworth: No. It is not that serious. I'm actually waiting for a bill.  
Sarah: A bill? From whom?  
Wentworth: From a plumber... Wait a minute, here it is. Let me open it. Maybe I should sit down. Hang on. I'll have to put my glasses on because I'm not sure about the digits I see.  
Sarah : What is this bill related to?  
Wentworth: Well, to cut a long story short, I had a problem at home last week. My sink was clogged. I put different detergents for two days into it in the hope that it might solve the problem. Unfortunately, after two days, nothing had changed. The blockage was still there... Therefore, I had to call on a plumber. He said he would come to remove the blockage the next morning... He definitely came the very next day. However, he showed up at 6pm.  
Sarah : Couriers, plumbers, delivery men never put the money where the mouth is. I mean, they can never be too sure about their schedule so they give you an approximate time which is often wrong. You cannot blame them.  
Wentworth: I know. Besides, he did a really good job. Within 30 minutes, the sink was clean.  
Sarah: Can I say 'back and running'?  
Wentworth: For appliances, yes. But here, it sounds a bit weird! Well, well... If I can read the invoice properly, his fee is 17 600 EURO.  
Sarah:: What? It can't be 17600EURO. Can I have a look?  
Wentworth: Sure. What do you reckon?  
Sarah: You have to pay 176EURO, not 17600 EURO. The comma separates the euro from the cents, Wentworth!  
Wentworth: I forgot! Let me breathe a sigh of relief. Haha  
Sarah: Haha



IMPORTANT MAIL	A blockage
What's the matter?	still
A matter	THEREFORE
To bring/brought/brought	To call on
mail	To remove
To oversleep	next
Could= preterit de CAN	definitely
To have a look	the very next day.
properly	however
To expect	To show up
To undergo	6 PM
A health examination	A courier
serious	never
actually	'put the money where the mouth is'
To wait for	too
A bill	A schedule
From whom ?	To give/gave/given
A plumber	An (approximate) time
maybe	often
SHOULD	wrong
Hang on= wait	To blame

Have to	besides
To put on	Do/did/done
(a pair of ) glasses	within
Sure about	clean
The number of digits	'back up and running'
Related to	An appliance
'to cut a long story short'	it sounds (a bit) weird!
A sink	A bill=an invoice
clogged	To read/read/read
To put/put/put	A fee
A detergent	Sure=of course
for (duration)	To reckon
Into=in	What do you reckon?
In the hope	A comma
MIGHT	To separate from
To solve a problem	To forget/forgot/forgotten
unfortunately	Let me <u>breathe a sigh of relief</u>



Grammar: EQUIVALENTS OF MUST FOR PAST AND FUTURE TENSES

We use must for the present tense only. In order to refer to obligation or ban(=interdiction), it is necessary to use alternatives.

5 common phrases are possible: 2 for positive statements and 3 for negative statements.

1/ OBLIGATION

a) HAVE TO / NEED TO

We use the equivalents HAVE TO and NEED TO to refer to obligation. We conjugate them according to the tense.

The patterns are: **HAVE TO + v** and **NEED TO + v**

Example:

They had to contact their parents at lunchtime

He needed to go to the bathroom

We will have to reschedule our appointment

She will need to buy a new car

2/ BAN

In order to refer to bans, we use 3 different alternatives.

a) BE NOT ALLOWED

We use the pattern: **BE NOT ALLOWED TO + v**

Example:

I was not allowed to go out when I was young

My son won't be allowed to drive before he passes his driving license

b) BE FORBIDDEN

We can also use the pattern: **BE forbidden TO + v**

I was forbidden to go out = I was not allowed to go out

My son will be forbidden to drive = My son won't be allowed to drive

c) COULD NOT

For past tenses, we can use the modal COULD in negative form followed by a bare infinitive (dictionary form). It is a possible equivalent for banning, here.

Example:

I **couldn't** go out = I was not allowed to go out

(!)With no context, COULD is the conditional form of CAN for unreal actions.

Example:

I **couldn't** go out if I wanted tomorrow night