Can vs Should vs Must

Understanding modal verbs

Spot the difference!

CAN	SHOULD	MUST
		
You can go for a run.	You **should** reply to that email.	• You must take this medicine.
Can = possible.	**Should** = a good idea.	**Must** = *necessary*

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Mustn't

We mustn't go there!





Don't have to

You don't have to bring food. I have a lot of pizza!





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SHOULD, MUST, OR HAVE TO?

Complete each sentence with should, must, or have to. Pay attention to the hints in each sentence.

1- You look tired. You _____ go to bed early tonight. (advice)
2- Students _____ wear a uniform at this school. (school rule)
3- I _____ finish this project today because my boss asked for it. (external obligation)
4- You _____ drink more water if you want to feel better. (advice)
5- We _____ stop at a red light. (law / strong obligation)
6- She _____ study more if she wants to pass the exam. (advice)
7- I _____ get up early tomorrow because I start work at 7 a.m. (external obligation)
8- You _____ be quiet in the library. (rule)
9- They _____ clean their room before their parents come home. (external obligation)
10- You _____ eat so much sugar; it's not healthy. (advice)
11- Drivers _____ wear a seatbelt. (law)
12- I _____ go to the doctor; I feel very sick. (strong personal necessity)
13- We _____ follow the teacher's instructions in class. (rule)
14- He _____ call his mother more often. (advice)
15- I _____ work late tonight because there is a lot to do. (external obligation)
16- You _____ not touch that; it's dangerous. (strong prohibition)
17- She _____ practice every day if she wants to improve. (advice)
18- We _____ be at the airport two hours before the flight. (rule / requirement)
19- I _____ wear a suit at work; it's the company policy. (external rule)
20- You _____ try this soup; it's delicious! (recommendation)

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