

**Pre-Intermediate 2**  
**Unit 4: Grammar, Part B**  
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**The Past Form of “Must”**

For the past form of “must”, we use “had to”.

Examples:

*I **must** try hard to do my best today.*

*I **had to** try hard to do my best yesterday.*

*The student **must** do a lot of homework every day.*

*The student **had to** do a lot of homework last week.*

**Deduction**

deduction = the process of reaching a decision or answer by thinking about the known facts, or the decision that is reached

*Through a process of deduction, the detectives discovered the identity of the killer.  
All we can do is make deductions from the available facts.*

We can use “must” to make deductions based on the available facts.

Examples:

*Jack’s grades at school are excellent. → He **must** be intelligent.*

*Nobody answers the doorbell. → They **must** be out.*

*Roger lives in a penthouse. → He **must** earn a lot of money.*

**Point:**

In negative deductions, we use “can’t”.

Examples:

*Jack’s grades at school are excellent. → He **can’t** be lazy.*

*Nobody answers the doorbell. → They **can’t** be at home.*

*Roger lives in a penthouse. → He **can’t** be a poor man.*

**Source:**

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