

School and university rules modals practice

modals of obligation, permission and prohibition/ education vocabulary

With your partner, decide which are the three best school rules and the three worst school rules from this list:

- Children have to attend class on Saturdays but they can go home early on Wednesdays.
- You have to **retake** your end of year **exams** during the summer holiday if you **flunk** (= **fail**) them in June
- You have to wear a **mortarboard** hat for your **graduation** ceremony
- You have to raise your hand when you want to speak in class
- You can't wear short skirts, hooded tops, very baggy trousers, ripped jeans or anything pink. If you do so, your **home room** teacher can send you home to get changed.
- You have to do **detention** after school if you arrive late
- You can drop all **foreign language** courses when you are 16
- You have to do **PE** (= Physical Education) outside in all weathers
- You can be **expelled** from school for **cheating** in tests
- If you have dyed hair, you can be **suspended** from school until it grows out
- You aren't allowed any physical contact with other students, including shaking hands
- You aren't allowed to smoke while wearing school **uniform**, even outside the **school gates**
- You are aren't allowed to run in the school **corridors**, and you have to walk on the left
- Mobile phones can be **confiscated** by the teacher
- Pupils can't eat lunch outside the school **canteen**
- **Secondary school** students have to do military training
- Students can decide their own **curriculum** and if they want to go to lessons or just do **self-study** in the library
- Children have to sing the national anthem and salute the flag at school **assembly**
- **Pupils** aren't allowed to wear any religious items, e.g. a cross or headscarf.
- Junior pupils have to help senior pupils carry their books etc. (= fagging)
- Naughty children can be punished by being made to write **lines** (= the same sentence 100 or more times)
- Very badly behaved children can be given **corporal punishment**, e.g. **the cane** (a stick)
- Even in the **playground**, children cannot use their mother tongue or dialect. They must use standard English at all times
- **6th formers** have to help teach the younger kids
- Girls have to wear coloured ribbons in their hair showing their **grade** and **class/ form**
- Children must always call the teacher '**sir**' or '**miss**'
- All students have to study **RE** (= Religious Education)
- Parents don't have to pay **tuition fees** or pay for **textbooks**, but they do have to pay for school trips, school lunches, art supplies and stationary.
- **Boarding school** students are only allowed to go home three times a year.
- You have to **pass** an **entrance test** before you can enter the school.
- Parents are supposed to attend the ceremony on the first day of school.
- In **co-ed** schools, boys and girls can't speak to each other during school hours

When your teacher stops you, ask about any rules above you aren't sure about, discussing if they are good or bad as a class each time.

You are now going to pretend to be the head teacher of a school. The six rules you chose above are the rules of your school. Someone from another group will pretend to be a student who is thinking about coming to your school or a parent of a student who is thinking about coming to your school. Answer all their questions about your school, trying to make the school seem as good as possible. You can't lie about the bad rules in your school, but you can try to avoid answering. If they ask about anything that isn't covered by your school rules, you can say anything you like. Then change roles and try to find out what is good and bad about your partner's school.

Report to the class which rules you found out, hear about the others, then discuss which are the three best and three worst rules in the class.

Modals grammar presentation

Without looking above, write the correct verbs in each gap below.

In France, children _____ attend class on Saturdays but they _____ go home early on Wednesdays.

In the UK, you _____
retake your end of year **exams** during the summer holiday if you **fail** them in June

You _____
to wear short skirts, hooded tops, very baggy trousers, ripped jeans or anything pink in some schools in the USA. Pink is banned because it is thought to be a gang colour.

In the UK, you might _____ do **detention** after school if you arrive late

In the UK, you _____ drop all **foreign language** courses when you are 16

In some schools in the USA, you _____ any physical contact with other students, including shaking hands. This is to stop both fights and sexual behaviour at school.

In China, **secondary school** students _____ do military training

In some Free Schools such as Summerhill in the UK, students _____ decide their own **curriculum** and if they want to go to lessons or just do **self-study** in the library

In France, pupils _____ wear any religious items, e.g. a cross or headscarf.

In many developing countries in Africa and Asia, older children such as **6th formers** _____ help teach the younger kids

In Thailand, girls _____
wear coloured ribbons in their hair showing which **grade** and class they are in

In the UK, children _____ always call the teacher '**sir**' or '**miss**'

In Japan, parents _____ attend the ceremony on the first day of school.

Look at the first page to help.

Check as a class.

Make three good rules and three bad rules for universities, using vocabulary from above or here if you like:

- alumni/ fellow alumni/ alumni association
- an undergraduate (student)
- distinction
- doctorate/ PhD
- fees
- finals
- freshers/ freshmen
- Freshers Week
- gap year
- (student) halls/ dorm
- lab/ laboratory
- lecture
- lecturer
- postgraduate (student)
- professor
- roommate
- sandwich course
- scholarship
- student union
- summer job
- thesis/ dissertation
- tutor

Compare with another group or other groups, and choose the three best and three worst.