British and American business etiquette modals practice
cultural training/ modals of obligation, prohibition and permission

Fill each gap below with at least modal verb or similar form ("have to" *etc). You can also add adverbs like* "usually" *and* "probably" *if you like.*

You _____ call a Welsh, Scottish or Northern Irish person "English".

In America, you _____ emphasise your (many) achievements in a job interview. In the UK you _____ be modest about your achievements.

In America, you _____ say how proud you are of your children's achievements, but in the UK you _____

The British often make critical comments about their country. You _____ join in by making other negative comments about the UK.

In the UK, you _____ say sorry to someone who has bumped into you (even if it isn't your fault at all).

In the UK, you _____ pay each time you order a round of drinks for everyone and you _____ take turns being the person on in your group who pays.

You _____ smoke in a British pub.

In the UK, you _____ bring humour into every meeting, presentation and conference speech.

You _____ be exactly on time or a little early for a British business meeting, but you _____ arrive ten to twenty minutes late for a dinner party at someone's house

You _____ use first names with managers of your company in both America and the UK

Check as a class or with the suggested answers.

downloaded from https://tefltastic.com

Suggested answers
Many other answers are possible, so please check with your teacher if you wrote something different.

You _____mustn't_____ call a Welsh, Scottish or Northern Irish person "English".

In America, you _____need to_____ emphasise your (many) achievements in a job interview. In the UK you _____should_____ be modest about your achievements.

In America, you _____can_____ say how proud you are of your children's achievements, but in the UK you _____shouldn't_____

The British often make critical comments about their country. You __mustn't_____ join in by making other negative comments about the UK.

In the UK, you _____should_____ say sorry to someone who has bumped into you (even if it isn't your fault at all).

In the UK, you _____have to _____ pay each time you order a round of drinks for everyone and you _____have to/ must_____ take turns being the person on in your group who pays.

You _____can't_____ smoke in a British pub.

In the UK, you _____can/ should_____ bring humour into every meeting, presentation and conference speech.

You _____must_____ be exactly on time or a little early for a British business meeting, but you _____should_____ arrive ten to twenty minutes late for a dinner party at someone's house

You _____can (usually/ almost always) _____ use first names with managers of your company in both America and the UK

What things above are different in your country? Make similar sentences about those and other things. Does your partner think it is true and/ or think the same is true about their country?

What other differences do you know between Britain and the USA?

downloaded from https://tefltastic.com