

Activity Type

Reading, writing, listening and speaking activity, group work

Language Focus

Modal verbs of obligation and prohibition

Aim

To use modal verbs of obligation and prohibition to make rules for guests and staff in a hotel.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student.

Level

Pre-intermediate

Time

35 minutes

Introduction

In this intriguing worksheet activity, students use modal verbs of obligation and prohibition to make rules for guests and staff in a hotel.

Procedure

Begin the activity by asking the students what they like and dislike about staying in hotels, e.g. hotel rooms, hotel staff, checking in, etc.

Next, divide the class into groups of three.

Give each student a copy of the worksheet.

Read through the hotel introduction and instructions on the worksheet with the class.

Explain that the students have taken over the management of a hotel and that they are going to decide what rules to have in the hotel for guests and staff.

In their groups, the students use the prompts in the first column of the table to create a set of rules.

Students write the rules in the second column using modal verbs of obligation and prohibition.

Groups should also think of extra rules for guests and staff and write them in the 'Other rules' box.

When the students have finished writing, have each group join with another group and compare rules, taking note of rules which are the same and different.

If one group doesn't agree with another group's rule, they try to persuade the other group to change it.

Finally, the groups explain their rules to the class. Discuss any unusual rules and see if the class can agree on one set of rules for the hotel.

The Modal Hotel features two outdoor pools in beautifully landscaped grounds. It also has a spa and two restaurants. It is a five-minute walk from the night market and city center.

Your group has just taken over management of the hotel. Look at the following information and decide what rules you are going to have in the hotel. Use modal verbs of obligation and prohibition to create the rules.

Examples:

- Guests **must** check out before midday.
- Guests **mustn't** smoke in their room.
- Guests **have to** leave their key when they go out.
- Staff **don't have to** work weekends.
- Guests **can't** order breakfast after 10 a.m.



Guests	Rules
<p>Checking in and out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • check out time? • check in time? • pay by cash/credit card? • if a guest checks out late? • if a guest wants to stay longer? • cancellation cost? 	
<p>Rooms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • leave key when guests go out? • smoking in the room? • Wi-Fi access? Cost? • have visitors? • TV channels? 	
<p>Meals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • breakfast start/finish time? • breakfast included/not included? • book a table for lunch/dinner? • tipping? 	
<p>Other rules</p>	
Staff	Rules
<p>Working hours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work weekends (how often?) • work evenings (how often?) • holiday leave (how often?) • if a member of staff is sick? 	
<p>Clothes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wear a uniform? • clothing for receptionists/bellboys? • clothing for kitchen staff? 	
<p>Other rules</p>	