Unit 9 — School Rules and Rights — Teacher copy

Track E · Klasse 7 · Niveau E

Niveau E

1. Vocabulary

Match each item to its meaning or use it in a sentence.

Term	Your note
must	
mustn’t	
should	
shouldn’t	
can	
can’t	
have to	

2. Reading

Read the text and use it for the activities below.

Reading text — *Phones in Pouches*

Ardenfield Comprehensive in Manchester has a ”phones-in-pouches” rule. Every morning, students put their phones into a magnetic pouch and keep the pouch with them all day. The pouch can only be unlocked by a teacher or in the office. The headteacher, Mr Atta, says the rule has cut bullying messages and fights at break time. Some pupils complain it feels like a prison rule. Mr Atta replies: ”We are open to a different rule. Bring me one that works.”

Language focus — modals of obligation/permission

Modal	Meaning	Example
must	strong obligation	*Students must put phones in the pouch.*
mustn’t	prohibition	*You mustn’t unlock the pouch yourself.*
should	recommendation	*We should review the rule.*
shouldn’t	recommendation against	*We shouldn’t ban phones without discussion.*

Modal	Meaning	Example
can	permission/ability	*Teachers can help if there’s an emergency.*
can’t	no permission	*Students can’t unlock the pouch.*
have to	external obligation	*We have to wear the school uniform.*

Mustn't (prohibition) and *don't have to* (no obligation) are **not** the same. *You mustn't park here* — forbidden. *You don't have to park here* — you can if you want, but you don't need to.

Language focus — present passive
We use the **passive** when the action matters more than who does it.

- *The pouches are sold at the office.* (we don't care who sells)
- *The rule is reviewed every term.*
- *Pupils are asked to put phones in pouches.*

Form: *to be* (in tense) + past participle.

3. Practise

Niveau G — controlled

A. Modal gap-fill.

1. Students _____ (must / can) bring water bottles, but they _____ (mustn't / can't) bring soft drinks.
2. We _____ (should / mustn't) wear smart shoes for trips.
3. Teachers _____ (can / mustn't) ask pupils to leave class if needed.

B. Active → passive transformation.

4. The teacher locks the pouch. → The pouch ___ .
5. The school sells the pouches. → The pouches ___ .

Niveau M — productive

C. Rule-writing. Turn each idea into one rule using a modal.

6. *(no caps in lessons)* → ___
7. *(everyone respects break time)* → ___
8. *(food only in the canteen)* → ___

D. Passive in context. Rewrite using the passive.

9. The headteacher reviews the rules every term. → ___ .
10. The teachers approve all changes. → ___ .

4. Your turn

Writing task — *One Rule I Would Change*. Write 100–120 words about **one rule** at your school you would keep and **one** you would change. For each, use a modal and one passive structure.

Sample student response (Niveau M, 116 words)

One rule I would keep is the no-running rule in the corridors. The corridors are crowded between lessons, and someone could easily get hurt. Pupils must walk and step aside for younger students. One rule I would change is the cap rule. Caps are banned in lessons, but they don't disturb anyone. I think pupils should be allowed to wear them in winter when the heating is off, although I would also accept a rule that says caps are only allowed if the windows are open. The point is that small rules are noticed every day. Big ones are easier to forget.

5. Further reading / listening

- BBC News — short articles on UK schools and phone rules. https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/c95yzy7gvyzt/uk-schools
- The Guardian — *Education* opinion pieces. https://www.theguardian.com/education
- UNICEF — *Convention on the Rights of the Child*, child-friendly version. https://www.unicef.org/child-rights-convention

6. Teacher answer key

Niveau G

A. 1. can / mustn’t, 2. should, 3. can.
B. 4. The pouch is locked by the teacher.

5. The pouches are sold by the school.

Niveau M

6. *Sample: Pupils mustn’t wear caps in lessons.*
7. *Sample: Everyone should respect break time.*
8. *Sample: Food can only be eaten in the canteen.*
9. *The rules are reviewed by the headteacher every term.*
10. *All changes are approved by the teachers.*