

Grammar lesson 8D (after page 592)

1. Please define the difference in meaning between these pairs of sentences (▶584).

needn't + have + past participle & didn't need / have to +
infinitive

Needn't + have + past participle is used to express an action that happened although it wasn't necessary. For example: You needn't have bought this juice. – We have a lot of juice. Didn't need / have to + infinitive is used to express an action that didn't happen because it wasn't necessary. For example: I didn't need / have to write to him as my friend had already spoken to him on the phone.

- We needn't have driven so fast. We drove fast but it wasn't necessary.
 We didn't need to drive so fast. We didn't drive fast because it wasn't necessary.
- 2. I needn't have given him any money.

I didn't need to give him any money.

3. I needn't have shouted at her.

I didn't need to shout at her.

4. We needn't have bought so much juice.

We didn't need to buy so much juice.

5. I needn't have discussed it with him.

I didn't need to discuss it with him.

2. Choose the best form (sometimes both forms may be possible).

- 1. We may / might win, but I don't think there's much chance.
- 2. That *can't / mustn't* be his son they're nearly the same age.
- 3. We can / may decide to go camping again in August.