

A law must be passed!

- ▶ Make recommendations about social issues
- ▶ Give opinions about laws and social issues

1 SNAPSHOT

8 UNUSUAL LAWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

1. A law prohibits unmarried women from parachuting on Sunday in Florida.
2. In Switzerland, it's illegal to keep only one pet if it's a social animal.
3. It's against the law to feed the pigeons in Venice.
4. In some states in Australia, you may not leave the car keys inside an unattended vehicle.
5. In the U.K., women aren't allowed to eat chocolate on public transportation.
6. Businesses must provide rails for tying up horses in Canada.
7. In the state of Washington, it's illegal to pretend your parents are rich.
8. In Finland, taxi drivers must pay royalties if they play music for customers.

Adapted from www.dumblaws.com

Which of these laws would you like to have in your city or country? Why?
Can you think of reasons for these laws?
Do you know of any other unusual laws?

2 PERSPECTIVES Rules and regulations

- ▶ **A** Listen to people make recommendations at a city council meeting. Would you agree with these proposals if they were made in your community? Check (✓) your opinion.

MEETING NOTES

1. Clubs should be required to install soundproof walls.
2. Riding a bike on the sidewalk mustn't be permitted.
3. Pet owners shouldn't be allowed to walk dogs without a leash.
4. Something has got to be done about littering.
5. A law must be passed to control the pollution from vehicles.
6. Children ought to be required to wear a helmet when riding a bike.
7. Schools should only be permitted to serve organic food.

	STRONGLY AGREE	SOMEWHAT AGREE	DISAGREE
1. Clubs should be required to install soundproof walls.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Riding a bike on the sidewalk mustn't be permitted.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Pet owners shouldn't be allowed to walk dogs without a leash.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Something has got to be done about littering.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. A law must be passed to control the pollution from vehicles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Children ought to be required to wear a helmet when riding a bike.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Schools should only be permitted to serve organic food.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- B GROUP WORK** Compare your opinions. Try to get your classmates to agree with you.

3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

▶ Giving recommendations and opinions

When you think something is a good idea

Clubs **should be required** to install soundproof walls.

Pet owners **shouldn't be allowed** to walk dogs without a leash.

People **ought (not) to be required** to wear a helmet when riding a bike.

When you think something is absolutely necessary

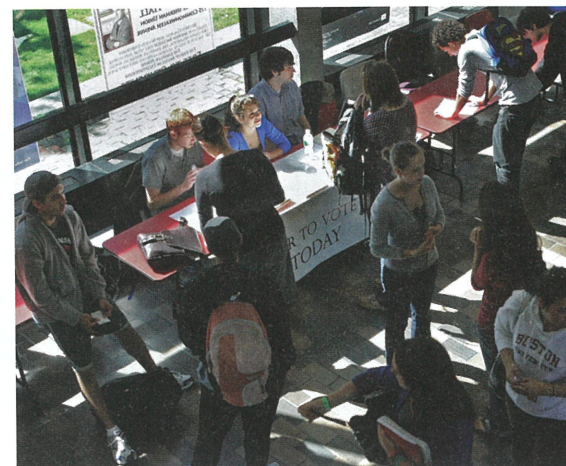
A law **must be passed** to control the pollution from vehicles.

Riding a bike on the sidewalk **mustn't be permitted**.

A rule **has to be made** to require bike lanes on city streets.

Something **has got to be done** to stop littering.

GRAMMAR PLUS see page 146



- A** Complete the sentences positively or negatively. Choose a modal that shows how strongly you feel about these issues.

1. Young people _____ (permit) to vote before age 21.
2. Laws _____ (pass) to protect people's online privacy.
3. People _____ (allow) to use offensive language in social media.
4. Governments _____ (require) to provide health care to all their citizens.
5. Children _____ (allow) to play violent video games.
6. Scientists _____ (permit) to use animals for research.
7. The sale of fur products _____ (prohibit).
8. Something _____ (do) to stop the pollution of rivers and oceans.

- B GROUP WORK** Compare your statements. Do you agree with one another? If not, why not?

- A:** Young people shouldn't be permitted to vote before age 21. They're not prepared.
B: You may have a point, but they could be better informed.
C: Maybe, but in my opinion, ...

4 DISCUSSION Controversial topics

- A GROUP WORK** Think of three reasons for, and three reasons against, each idea below. Then discuss your views. As a group, form an opinion about each idea.

requiring employers to offer workers 12 weeks of parental leave
paying teachers less when their students fail
banning private cars from the downtown areas of big cities

- A:** What do you think about requiring employers to offer workers 12 weeks of parental leave?
B: I think it's a good idea. Parents should be allowed to stay with their babies ...

offering a different opinion

That sounds interesting, but I think ...
That's not a bad idea. On the other hand, I feel ...
You may have a point. However, I think ...

- B CLASS ACTIVITY** Share your group's opinions and reasons. Who has the most persuasive reasons for and against each position?

5 LISTENING Something has got to be done!

- ▶ **A** Listen to people discuss annoying situations. Number the situations they describe in the correct order from 1 to 3. (There are three extra situations.)

- ☐ using the phone on speaker in public places
- ☐ using a cell phone on a plane
- ☐ posting selfies on social media
- ☐ taking selfies in crowded places
- ☐ not having signs about cell phones in public places
- ☐ texting in a movie theater

- ▶ **B** Listen again. What solutions do they suggest for each situation?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

- C GROUP WORK** Do you agree or disagree with the solutions? What do you think should be done about each problem?



6 INTERCHANGE 15 On the wrong side of the law

What if you could make the rules? Go to Interchange 15 on page 130.

7 WORD POWER Community issues

- A PAIR WORK** Which of these issues are problems in your community? Check (✓) the appropriate boxes.

- ☐ bullying
- ☐ homelessness
- ☐ inadequate health care
- ☐ irregular trash collection
- ☐ lack of affordable child care
- ☐ noise pollution
- ☐ overcrowded classrooms
- ☐ stray animals
- ☐ street crime
- ☐ vandalism

- B GROUP WORK** Join another pair of students. Which three problems concern your group the most? What should or can be done about them?



8 CONVERSATION It's not easy, is it?

- ▶ **A** Listen and practice.

Mara: I need to find a new apartment. I can't stand the noise from all those bars and clubs in my neighborhood anymore.

Ted: I can imagine. But it isn't easy to find a nice apartment in a quiet neighborhood, is it?

Mara: No, it's not! And my rent is already sky-high. I'm having a hard time making ends meet.

Ted: I know. Everything is really expensive nowadays, isn't it?

Mara: It sure is. You know, I'm looking for child care for my baby, but I just can't find anything affordable in the area.

Ted: The city should provide free child care to working families.

Mara: I think so, too. But unfortunately, the mayor doesn't.



- ▶ **B** Listen to the rest of the conversation. What is Ted concerned about?

9 GRAMMAR FOCUS

- ▶ **Tag questions for opinions**

Affirmative statement + negative tag

Everything is really expensive nowadays, **isn't it?**

There are lots of clubs around, **aren't there?**

Mara likes her apartment, **doesn't she?**

The city should provide child care, **shouldn't it?**

Negative statement + affirmative tag

It isn't easy to find a nice apartment, **is it?**

There aren't any noise pollution laws, **are there?**

Her neighbors don't make much noise, **do they?**

You can't sleep because of the noise, **can you?**

GRAMMAR PLUS see page 146

- A** Add tag questions to these statements. Then compare with a partner.

1. There aren't enough shelters for the homeless, ... ?
2. Vandalism makes a neighborhood very unpleasant, ... ?
3. In overcrowded classrooms, teachers can't give enough attention to students, ... ?
4. School bullying is a major problem in most schools, ... ?
5. There are more street crimes in big cities than in small towns, ... ?
6. The government should provide adequate health care to everyone, ... ?
7. The city doesn't do enough for stray animals, ... ?
8. It isn't easy to save money these days, ... ?

- B** What are some things you feel strongly about in your school or city? Write six statements with tag questions.

- C GROUP WORK** Take turns reading your statements. Other students respond by giving their opinions.

A: Public transportation isn't adequate, is it?

B: No, it isn't. There should be more bus lines.

C: On the other hand, the subway system is very efficient ...

10 PRONUNCIATION Intonation in tag questions

- ▶ **A** Listen and practice. Use falling intonation in tag questions when you are giving an opinion and expect the other person to agree.

Noise pollution is a serious problem in our city, isn't it?

Governments should offer child care to all working families, shouldn't they?

- B PAIR WORK** Take turns reading the statements with tag questions from Exercise 9, part A. Give your own opinions when responding.

11 LISTENING Let's face it.

- ▶ **A** Listen to people give their opinions about issues in the news. What issues are they talking about?

	Issue	Opinions for	Opinions against
1.			
2.			

- ▶ **B** Listen again. Write the different opinions that you hear.

- C GROUP WORK** What do you think about the issues in part A? Give your own opinions.

12 WRITING There ought to be a law.

- A** Think about a local problem that needs to be solved, and write a persuasive essay suggesting a new law to help solve it. Be creative! Use these questions to help you.

What is the problem, and how does it affect your community?

What can be done to help solve it?

Who might disagree with you, and how will you convince him or her that your law is a good idea?



The water crisis affects people all over the world. I think cities should be required to recycle their water. Also, people shouldn't be permitted to use clean drinking water to wash their cars and water their gardens. If people used recycled water, ...

- B GROUP WORK** Try to convince your classmates to pass your new law. Then vote on it.

13 READING

- A** Look at the title and the picture. What do you think plagiarism is?

HOME
NEWS
ARTICLES
COMMUNITY

THAT'S PLAGIARISM?

POSTED AUGUST 21

If a teacher or your boss called you aside and said that he or she suspected you of plagiarism, how would you react? You'd probably be honestly confused. Nowadays, there are so many sources of information available that you can copy from with a single click. Many people don't even realize that they're committing plagiarism. Whether it's intentional or not, using someone else's information is stealing, and stealing is definitely a big deal.

The confusion about ownership comes from the fact that articles, photos, blogs, and social media posts are so easy to access – and just as easy to copy. When you see the same article on various websites, it's fairly natural to assume that it's public property. If a resource like Wikipedia offers material that can be critiqued and changed by its readers, that must be free for the taking, right? But that simply is not the case. Everything that has been written, drawn, photographed, or recorded, and released to the public, belongs to someone. Even your friends' comments on your social media page belong to them, not to you.

To avoid plagiarism, here are a few basic points to keep in mind. When writing a paper, if you get ideas or wording from someone else's writing, you must include the name of the writer or the source. If you find a few articles that you want to use, and you

think taking a few points from each article and combining them makes the content yours, it's just not the case. This kind of "masked" plagiarism is very easy to spot, and it will get you into trouble. But really, just asking yourself a simple question should be enough: "Are all of these words my own?" If the answer is yes, you're in the clear.

In the end, the best approach is to write down the source for any material you quote from directly, and to assume that if it's public, it isn't yours. Plagiarism is a serious problem and can have serious consequences – even if it's totally accidental. Besides, putting ideas into your own words can make you a better writer, and a better thinker as well.

- B** Read the article. Then answer the questions.

- What is the author's main purpose in writing the piece?
- Why might it be easy to commit plagiarism by accident?
- What question should you ask yourself in order to avoid plagiarism?

- C** Look at the following situations. Do you think they are describing plagiarism or not? If they are, do you think it was accidental or intentional?

- Stacy copied a paragraph from a travel website and pasted it into her essay about Aruba. She put it into quotation marks and included the name and link for the website.
- John works for a bank. He copied a paragraph from a website. He changed some words and rearranged some of the sentences. He did not indicate where it came from. He used it in a brochure for the bank.
- Julie read an article online and later wrote her own essay about the same subject. Some of her wording was exactly the same as the online article.
- Mitch borrowed a friend's essay to get some ideas for his own. Their teacher said that their essays were almost identical.

- D PAIR WORK** Sometimes famous musicians get in trouble for putting out songs that sound like someone else's. Do you think this is plagiarism? What, if anything, should be done about it?