French

Talking about what you do to earn money (Part 2/2)

- Using *devoir* in the imperfect and the conditional

Downloadable Resource





trouver



jouer



toujours

[always; still]





amusant



utiliser

[to use]

SUr [on]



le petit boulot	casual job
aider à la maison	to help/helping at home
passer l'aspirateur	to vacuum/vacuuming
faire la vaisselle	to do/doing the washing up
laver la voiture	to wash/washing the car
tondre la pelouse	to mow/mowing the lawn
promener le chien	to walk/walking the dog
remplir les rayons	to stack/ stacking shelves
faire du babysitting	to babysit/babysitting
livrer des journaux	to deliver/delivering newspapers

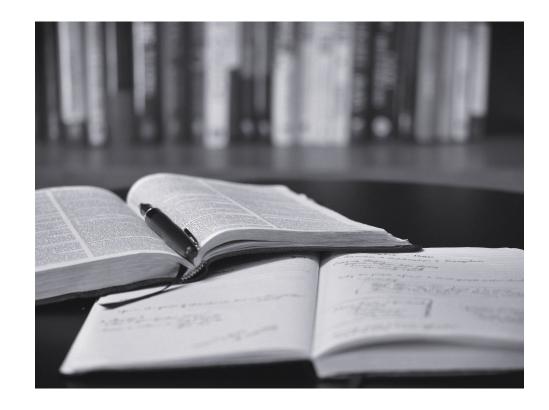


Remember: infinitives can be translated as 'to...' as well as the gerund '...ing'.



Using devoir in the imperfect

devoir = to have to/having to



Je devais promener le chien.



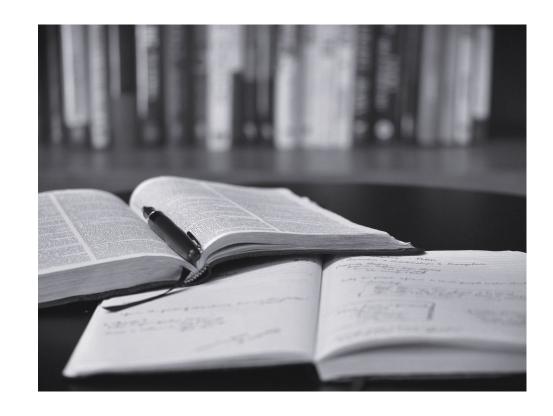
I had to walk the dog.

The verb *devoir* in the **imperfect** communicates the idea 'had to'. The expression *je devais* ('I had to') is **followed by the infinitive**.



Using devoir in the conditional

devoir = to have to/having to



Je devrais promener le chien.



I should/ought to walk the dog.

The verb *devoir* in the **conditional** translates the concept **'should' or 'ought to'**. The expression *je devrais* ('I should' or 'I ought to') is **followed by the infinitive**.



Using devoir in the imperfect and conditional

Quand j'étais plus jeune, je devais promener le chien.



When I was younger,
I had to walk the dog.

Actuellement, je fais la vaisselle.



Currently, I do the washing up.

À mon avis, **je devrais passer** l'aspirateur.



In my opinion I ought to / should vacuum.



Using devoir in the imperfect and conditional

The verb *devoir* in the **imperfect** communicates the idea **'had to'**. The expression *je devais* ('I had to') is **followed by the infinitive**.

Quand j'étais plus jeune, je devais promener le chien.

When I was younger, I had to walk the dog.

The verb *devoir* in the conditional translates the concept 'should' or 'ought to'. The expression *je devrais* ('I should' or 'I ought to') is followed by the infinitive.

À mon avis, **je devrais passer** l'aspirateur.

In my opinion I ought to /should vacuum.



Talking about what you do to earn money

1. I had to = Je devais

2. I ought to/should = Je devrais

3. I had to wash the car = Je devais laver la

4. Currently I deliver newspapers =

5. I should/ought to help at home =

voiture

Actuellement je livre des journaux

Je devrais aider à la maison

