

## Movies & Languages 2016-2017

### *The Intern*

**About the movie** (subtitled version)

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|-----------------------|--|
| <b>DIRECTOR</b>       | Nancy Meyers   |
| <b>YEAR / COUNTRY</b> | 2015 / USA   |
| <b>GENRE</b>          | Comedy   |
| <b>ACTORS</b>         | Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway, Rene Russo, Anders Holm, JoJo Kushner |



### PLOT

A retired 70 year old widower, Ben (played by Robert De Niro) is bored with his life of pension and retirement. He applies to be a senior intern at an online, start-up, fashion retailer and gets the position.

The founder of the company is Jules Ostin (played by Anne Hathaway), a tireless, driven, demanding dynamic workaholic. Ben is made her intern, but this is a nominal role, she doesn't intend to give him work and it just window dressing. However, Ben proves to be quite useful and, more than that, a source of support and wisdom.

### LANGUAGE

Standard American English.

### GRAMMAR

#### **Modals (obligation)**

To say that something is necessary we use **have to**, **need to** and **must**:

I **have to/ need to** speak to Jane before she leaves

We **must** finish the meeting by eleven at the latest.

All three forms are very similar, particularly in writing where they all express necessity (obligation).

In speech there is a small difference.

- **Have to and need to** – the situation makes **something necessary**:

You **have to pay** the invoice by the end of the month, it's company policy.

- **Must** – the speaker personally feels something is important:

You **must** stop working so hard.

To make a question we normally use **have to** or **need to**. If we use **must** for a question we can sound annoyed, particularly if we stress must in speech.

Unfortunately, I **must/ have to/ need to work** this evening.

Do you **have to/ need to** work this evening?

**Must** you work this evening?

**Have got to** and **I, you, we'll have to** are also used for necessity. They are more informal.

**You've got to/ You have to** contact them as soon as possible.

#### VOCABULARY

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Time on my hands:</b> free time with no obligations                     | <b>Hands on manager:</b> manager who gets involved in the everyday activities of his/her employees |
| <b>Playing hooky:</b> not showing up for school or work for a false reason | <b>Playing catch-up:</b> trying to recover something lost, time, etc.                              |
| <b>Baby steps:</b> first steps in experiencing something                   | <b>Bust my ass:</b> work very hard   |
| <b>On the fence:</b> indecisive  | <b>Chuckles:</b> laughing about something  |
| <b>To scoff:</b> to mock or show lack of respect for someone or something  | <b>Likes:</b> positive responses   |
| <b>Hold your horses:</b> don't hurry or go too quickly                     | <b>I'm so slammed:</b> I have lots of work to do   |
| <b>I'm good:</b> I'm fine  | <b>Cracks me up:</b> makes me surprised or happy   |
| <b>Jump the gun:</b> act in haste  | <b>Backup:</b> extra help  |
| <b>A big deal:</b> something or someone very important                     | <b>Ton of bricks:</b> heavy or stressful consequence   |
| <b>Over the hump:</b> to get through a difficult period                    | <b>Hang in there:</b> try to survive and maintain yourself   |
| <b>Roll-up your sleeves attitude:</b> willingness to work                  | <b>To be hip:</b> an awareness and understanding of what is new or smart                           |
| <b>Getting evicted:</b> being forced to leave your house or dwelling       | <b>Intern:</b> a person gaining practical experience under professional guidance                   |