

## I GOTTA

Read the sentences below. They have basically the same meaning.

1. I need to go now.
2. I have to go now.
3. I've got to go now.

In spoken English, *I've got to* (Sentence 3) is often pronounced "I've gotta" or "I gotta."



With a partner, practice using *I gotta* in the conversations below. Take turns being Person 1 and Person 2. There are many possible ways to complete the sentences. (Remember: *Gotta* is used in spoken English, but not in writing.)

1. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah.<sup>1</sup> I gotta go to the grocery store. I gotta buy \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah. I gotta go to the drugstore. I gotta buy \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah. I gotta go to the mall. I gotta buy \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah. I gotta go to the post office. I gotta \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah. I gotta go to the bank. I gotta \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah. I gotta go home. I gotta \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Person 1: Are you leaving now?  
Person 2: Yeah. I gotta go to \_\_\_\_\_. I gotta \_\_\_\_\_.  
*a place in your city*

<sup>1</sup> Yeah = Yes. Yeah is used in informal spoken English.