

Level: B2: Upper Intermediate

Skill: Grammar

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Question Tags

➔ Question tags are short phrases added to the end of statements to turn them into questions or to seek confirmation from the listener.

They are used to confirm information, seek agreement, or express uncertainty.

Question tags typically consist of an auxiliary verb and a pronoun that matches the subject of the statement.

✏ Structure:

The structure of a question tag is usually as follows:

- If the main clause is affirmative, the question tag is negative, and vice versa.
- The auxiliary verb in the question tag matches the tense of the main clause.
- The pronoun in the question tag matches the subject of the main clause.

Example: You arrived yesterday, **didn't you?**
Main sentence: Positive - Past Simple Question tag: Negative - Past Simple

Example: You **didn't arrive** yesterday, **did you?**
Main sentence: Negative - Past Simple Question tag: Positive - Past Simple

📌 Functions:

Question tags serve several functions:

1. **Seeking Confirmation:** They seek confirmation or agreement from the listener.
 - e.g., "You enjoyed the movie, **didn't you?**"
2. **Expressing Uncertainty:** They express uncertainty or doubt about a statement.
 - e.g., "He's here already, **isn't he?**"
3. **Softening Statements:** They can soften statements or make requests less direct.
 - e.g., "You could pass me the salt, **couldn't you?**"

🚫 Common Mistakes:

Some common mistakes to avoid when using question tags include:

- Incorrect matching of auxiliary verbs with the tense of the main clause.
- Incorrect matching of pronouns with the subject of the main clause.
- Using a question tag with imperative sentences.

🌈 Innit:

It is a colloquial term commonly used in British English, particularly in informal speech and casual conversations. It is a contraction of the phrase "isn't it" and is used as a question tag at the end of a statement.

Example: "It's a beautiful day today, **innit?**"

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Play the game



LINK

Passcode: 001341422

Write the score:

Rewrite each sentence, changing the statement into a question using an appropriate question tag. Be mindful of tense, subject-verb agreement, and auxiliary verbs.

1. Statement: They have been working on this project for weeks.
◦ Question Tag: _____
2. Statement: She had already finished her work by the time I arrived.
◦ Question Tag: _____
3. Statement: He won't have any trouble finding his way home.
◦ Question Tag: _____
4. Statement: We should have left earlier to avoid the traffic.
◦ Question Tag: _____
5. Statement: You are never satisfied with the results.
◦ Question Tag: _____
6. Statement: They would have invited us to the party if they had remembered.
◦ Question Tag: _____
7. Statement: She will be joining us for dinner later.
◦ Question Tag: _____
8. Statement: The concert starts at 7 p.m.
◦ Question Tag: _____
9. Statement: You have never been to New York City before.
◦ Question Tag: _____
10. Statement: He might consider taking up a new hobby.
◦ Question Tag: _____