1 🔊 1.6 Look at the photo. Listen to three conversations at a party. Which do you think is the best question they use to keep a conversation going?

2 Think of three more questions you could ask to get to know someone better.

Question tags and echo questions

3 Look at the underlined examples of question tags from the dialogues. Then complete the sentences 1–4 below with the words in the box.

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negative   end   positive   modal

It's such a great city, <u>isn't it?</u>

Wow, so you'd never been there before, <u>had you?</u>

I shouldn't be so fussy, <u>should I?</u>

1 A **question tag** is a short question added to the <u>end</u>_____ of a sentence.

2 We form a question tag using an auxiliary or a _____ verb and a pronoun.

3 A positive statement usually has a <u>netive</u> question tag.

4 A negative statement usually has a _____ question tag.

4 🔊 1.7 PRONUNCIATION Listen and match what you hear with intonation pattern A or B below. Which pattern is used for a real question and which for confirming something the speaker already knows?

A ⌣͟   **B** ⌢

5 🔊 1.8 Look at these more unusual question tags. Choose the correct words to complete the sentences. Listen and check.

1 This is silly, isn't *it / this*?

2 Nothing ever changes, *do / does* it?

3 Come and look at this, *will / don't* you?

4 Everyone was there, *weren't / wasn't* they?

5 Don't be late, *are / will* you?

6 No one likes him, *do / does* they?

7 Let's stay here, *do / shall* we?

8 I'm a bit late, *don't / aren't* I?

9 Pick me up at eight, *don't / could* you?

6 In pairs, look at the echo question *in italics*. Then answer questions 1–3 below.

Cameron Actually, it's my birthday tomorrow.

Emma *Is it?* Do you have anything special planned?

1 What is the function of an echo question?

2 Do we use a positive or a negative question to reply to a positive statement?

3 Which intonation pattern from Exercise 4 do we use with an echo question: A or B?

7 🔊 1.9 Complete the conversations with no more than three words in each gap. Listen and check your answers.

Ben Where would you live if you could live anywhere in the world?

Meg ¹_____ a good question, isn't it? I don't think I've ever really thought about it before. Hmm ... Somewhere a bit warmer, I guess.

Ben Yes, ²_____ too much rain in this country, isn't there?

Meg Oh yes, there is. But I wouldn't want to live somewhere *too* hot. I mean, in some countries it can be 45 degrees in the summer. That would be unbearable, ³_____?

Ben Actually, I used to live in Dubai.

Meg ⁴_____ you? I bet ⁵_____ really hot, wasn't it?

Ben Boiling! But we had air conditioning, and a pool.

Meg That sounds great. I wouldn't mind living somewhere like that, actually.

Ira Move up, ⁶_____? I really need to sit down!

Kate Have you been dancing?

Ira Yes, I love the music they're playing. ⁷_____?

Kate It's not really my thing, actually. I find it a bit boring.

Ira ⁸_____? But everyone loves this band, ⁹_____?

Kate Not me.

Ira You have no taste in music then.

Kate Erm, seriously?

Ira Oh, sorry, I'm being a bit annoying, ¹⁰_____? Let's stop talking about music then, ¹¹_____?

Kate Yes, I think that might be best!

8 SPEAKING In pairs, write and role play a conversation. Go to page 196.

☐ I can use question tags and echo questions to keep a conversation going.