



Question tags

¿Qué son las "question tags"?

Son esas preguntas cortitas que se añaden al final de una frase cuando no estamos seguros de lo que acabamos de decir o queremos saber si el otro está de acuerdo.

☞ *You don't drink coffee, do you?*

☞ *Your cat is so gorgeous, isn't he?*

Equivalen a las coletillas que usamos constantemente en español: ¿no?, ¿verdad? ...

¿Cómo se construyen las "question tags"?

Lo primero es tener en cuenta el sentido de la frase:

Si la frase es **positiva**, la "question tag" será **negativa**.

Si la frase es **negativa**, la "question tag" será **positiva**.

☞ *You **know** how to cook, **don't** you?*

☞ *You **don't** know how to cook, **do** you?*

La estructura de las "question tags".

Si la "question tag" es **positiva**, su estructura es: **Auxiliar + Pronombre**

Si la "question tag" es **negativa**, su estructura es: **Auxiliar + Not + Pronombre**

Cuando el verbo auxiliar APARECE en la oración.

Verbo 'be' (present & past continuous)

- He **is** sleeping, **isn't** he?
- You **are** working this week, **aren't** you?
- She **was** ill last week, **wasn't** she?
- They **were** eating, **weren't** they?

Present & past perfect

- You **have** met my sister, **haven't** you?
- She **has** eaten my cake, **hasn't** she?
- You **had** spoken to Mary, **hadn't** you?

Will & modal verbs

- It **will** be fine, **won't** it?
- She **won't** tell anybody, **will** she?
- You **can't** take sugar, **can** you?
- I **should** study hard, **shouldn't** I?
- He **must** be so sad, **mustn't** he?

Cuando el verbo auxiliar NO APARECE en la oración.**Present & past simple**

- She **runs** really fast, **doesn't** she? (She does run)
- They **live** in Belgium, **don't** they? (They do live)
- You **ate** my biscuit, **didn't** you? (You did eat)
- It **rained** last night, **didn't** it? (It did rain)

¡Lo que más nos confunde!**Have, have to & have got**

- He **has** a hamster, **doesn't** he?
- He **has got** a hamster, **hasn't** he?
- They **have to** eat, **don't** they?
- They **have got** to eat, **haven't** they?

Casos especiales**Con 'I am', siempre se usa 'aren't I?'**

- I **am** the best student in the class, **aren't** I?

Con el imperativo siempre se usa 'will you?', tanto si la oración es positiva o negativa.

- Pass me that pen, **will you?** / Don't be late, **will you?**

Con la expresión 'Let's', siempre se usa 'shall we?'

- **Let's** have lunch, **shall we?** / **Let's not** argue, **shall we?**

Con 'there is / there are', la "question tag" se forma usando 'there'.

- **There isn't** any bread left, **is there?** / **There is** plenty of time, **isn't there?**