12 Questions / Short Answers

39 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**



Question Tags

- **Question tags are short questions at the end of a statement. They are mainly used when we want to confirm something or when we want to find out if something is true or not.** *They're leaving soon, **aren't they**?*
- **Question tags are formed with an auxiliary or modal verb from the main sentence and the appropriate subject pronoun. When the verb of the sentence is in the present or past simple, we form the question tag with do/does/did + subject pronoun** *She likes classical music, **doesn't she**? She **arrived** early, **didn't she**? He **has been** at home, **hasn't he**?*
- **A positive statement is followed by a negative question tag, and a negative statement is followed by a positive question tag.** *She **is** going to apply for that job, **isn't she**? You **weren't** listening, **were you**? They **called** off the wedding, **didn't they**?*
- **Everyone/Someone/Anyone/No one form their question tags with an auxiliary verb + they.** ***Everyone** knows the way to the church, **don't they**?*
- **When we aren't sure of the answer and want to check information, our voice goes up in the question tag.** *He has been to Paris, **hasn't he**?* (not sure)

  When we are sure of the answer and expect agreement, our voice goes down in the question tag. *She has got a pet dog, **hasn't she**?* (sure)
- **Question tags can also be affirmative – affirmative. If the voice goes up, we mean "Tell me more".** *She's getting married, **is she**?* **If the voice goes down, we express negative feelings such as disappointment or disapproval. We don't expect an answer.** *What a pity, the party's cancelled, **is it**?*
- **Echo tags are a response to an affirmative or negative sentence. They are used in everyday speech to ask for more information, to show interest, concern, anger, surprise, etc.**
  Affirmative: *He's leaving. – **He is, isn't he?*** (confirmation) *He's leaving. – **He is?*** (surprise)
  Negative: *He isn't leaving. – **He isn't, is he?*** (confirmation) *He isn't leaving. – **He isn't?*** (surprise)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Study the following question tags.

1	"I am"	→ "aren't I?"	*I am shorter than her, **aren't I?***
2	"I used to"	→ "didn't I?"	*She used to like it here, **didn't she?***
3	Imperative	→ "will you/won't you?" "can you/could you?"	*Please leave the door open, **will you/won't you can you/could you?***
4	"Let's"	→ "shall we?"	*Let's consult a specialist, **shall we?***
5	"Let me/him" etc	→ "will you/won't you?"	*Let the children decide, **will you/won't you?***
6	"Don't"	→ "will you?"	*Don't leave the door open, **will you?***
7	"I have" (= possess)	→ "haven't I?"	*He has got a yacht, **hasn't he?***
8	"I have" (idiomatically)	→ "don't I?"	*They had a party last night, **didn't they?***
9	"There is/are"	→ "isn't/aren't there?"	*There is some coffee for me, **isn't there?***
10	"This/That is"	→ "isn't it?"	*This coat is Peter's, **isn't it?***

15 Underline the correct item.

1 You've been to China, **didn't you/haven't you**?
2 Let's order pizza for dinner, **shall we/will we**?
3 Malta is an island, **is it/isn't it**?
4 Smoking in public should be banned, **should it/shouldn't it**?
5 Tom's not playing video games again, **isn't he/is he**?
6 Meet me tomorrow, **will you/do you**?
7 I told you to bring a packed lunch, **didn't I/haven't I**?
8 That is Tom's backpack, **is it/isn't it**?
9 He moved house last year, **didn't he/hadn't he**?
10 The teams are ready to start the game, **isn't they/aren't they**?

16 Fill in the question tags, then read the sentences aloud with the correct intonation.

sure	not sure		
	✓	1	Linda's still on holiday, ... isn't she .....?
	✓	2	Berlin is the capital of Germany, ...?
✓		3	Heather and Claire don't speak Dutch, ...?
✓		4	He's gone to the bookstore, ...?
✓		5	You like sushi, ...?
	✓	6	We haven't met before, ...?
✓		7	There's some orange juice left, ...?
	✓	8	You and John go to the same school, ...?
	✓	9	She will meet me at the bus stop, ...?
✓		10	I'm older than you are, ...?
	✓	11	That's our dog, ...?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

12 Questions / Short Answers

17 **Read the situations and write sentences with questions tags. In each situation, you are asking your friend to agree with you.**

1 You and your friend have just eaten at an expensive restaurant. You really enjoyed your meal. What do you say? **(delicious)**
That meal *was really delicious, wasn't it*.....?

2 You and your friend need to get to the city centre. You don't want to walk. What do you say to your friend? **(take the bus)**
Let's .....?

3 You're taking a walk in the forest. Your friend walks very fast. What do you say? **(slowly)**
Walk .....?

4 You are looking at a resort in a holiday brochure. You don't like it, though. What do you say to your friend? **(not/look nice)**
It .....?

5 You want to go to the cinema. Your friend is still doing the household chores. What do you say? **(not/finish/chores)**
You .....?

Short Answers

- **Short answers are used to avoid repetition of the question asked before. Positive short answers are formed with Yes + personal pronoun + auxiliary verb (*do, can, will, have, may,* etc).** *"Will she be leaving soon?"* ***"Yes, she will."*** **Negative short answers are formed with No + personal pronoun + negative auxiliary verb.** *"Did he arrive on time?"* ***"No, he didn't."***

18 **Complete the dialogue using short answers.**



Mary: Hi, Paul. Have you decided which summer camp to go to this summer?
Paul: Yes, 1) ....*I have*.... . I've decided to go to an adventure camp in York.
Mary: Wow! I've heard about that one. Did you read about it on the Internet?
Paul: Yes, 2) ..... . It looks great!
Mary: So, have you booked already?
Paul: No, 3) ..... . I have to ask my parents first.
Mary: Are you sure they're going to allow you to go?
Paul: Yes, 4) ..... . They know that I love extreme sports.
Mary: So, will you try bungee jumping there?
Paul: No, 5) ..... . I'm a little scared of heights. But I can't wait to go canoeing!
Mary: That sounds like fun. Do you know how to canoe?
Paul: No, 6) ....., but there will be instructors there to teach us.
Mary: I'm sure you'll have a great time. Can I call you when you're there?
Paul: Yes, 7) ..... . We are allowed to bring our mobile phones.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

19 Fill in the correct questions tags and short answers.

1 A: She likes chocolate ice cream, *doesn't* *she*?
B: No, *she doesn't*. She prefers vanilla.

2 A: You've read *Oliver Twist*, ...?
B: Yes, ... It's very interesting.

3 A: I'm not too early, ...?
B: No, ... The other guests will be arriving soon.

4 A: Ann did the ironing, ...?
B: Yes, ... She also did the washing-up.

5 A: You aren't from Barcelona, ...?
B: No, ... I'm from Madrid.

6 A: You will be travelling tomorrow, ...?
B: Yes, ... My plane leaves at 2 o'clock.

7 A: They've moved house, ...?
B: Yes, ... They live in the suburbs now.

8 A: You drive to work every morning, ...?
B: Yes, ... It takes me half an hour to get to the office.

So – Neither/Nor – But

We use:

- **So + auxiliary verb + personal pronoun/noun after a positive statement.** *I'm thirsty.* ***So am I.*** (= I'm thirsty too.)
- **Neither/Nor + auxiliary verb + personal pronoun/noun after a negative statement.** *Jim can't come tonight.* ***Neither/Nor can I.*** *(NOT: ~~So can I.~~)*
- **But + personal pronoun/noun + affirmative auxiliary verb to show positive contrast to a negative statement.** *Katie has never flown in a plane before,* ***but I have.*** *Mike hasn't finished,* ***but James has.***
- **But + personal pronoun/noun + negative auxiliary verb to show negative contrast to a positive statement.** *He looks like my father,* ***but I don't.*** *Mike has already finished,* ***but John hasn't.***
- **When we wish to express surprise at what sb has said, we use so + subject + auxiliary verb.** *Claire: Look; that man's wearing a wig. Tina:* ***So he is!***

20 Look at the table and write sentences, as in the example.

	Tom	Beth	Ray	Pam
like dancing		✓	✓	
travel abroad	✓			✓
own a laptop	✓		✓	
can speak Spanish		✓	✓	

1 Beth likes dancing. *So does Ray, but Tom and Pam don't.*
2 Pam has travelled abroad. .....
3 Tom owns a laptop. .....
4 Ray can speak Spanish. .....
5 Pam doesn't own a laptop. .....
6 Ray hasn't travelled abroad. .....
7 Pam can't speak Spanish. .....
8 Tom doesn't like dancing. .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS