Auxiliary verbs

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a Why they think this?
  b Why do they think this?
2 a I am not agree with this idea.
  b I do not agree with this idea.

Do, *be* and *have* are called auxiliary verbs. This means that they help to change the main verb.

Do is used with the infinitive to make negatives or questions:
I ***don't*** *agree.* (not ~~*I am not agree.*~~) ***Do*** *you agree?* (not ~~*Are you agree?*~~)
Do can be used with other question words: *Why* ***do*** *you agree?* (not ~~*Why you agree?*~~)

Be is used with *-ing* verb forms to make the continuous tenses:
I ***am*** *studying* ***ing*** *English in Cambridge.* (not ~~*I studying English*~~)
(*be* is also used with the past participle to make the passive – see unit 19)

Have is used with the past participle of the verb to make the perfect tenses:
I ***have been*** *here for three months.* (not ~~*I am been here*~~ or ~~*I been here*~~)

The auxiliary verb must agree with the subject of the verb (see unit 2): ***Does*** *your mother drink tea?* (not ~~*Do your mother drink tea?*~~)
☆ We make questions and negatives without *do* if another auxiliary verb is used:
Are *you* ***studying*** *here?* (not ~~*Do you are studying here?*~~) (auxiliary verb *be*)

2 Correct the mistakes below.



We ..... tennis. Do you .....?

3 Underline the correct auxiliary verb in each sentence. Sometimes no auxiliary is needed.

1 What *do* / *does* your friend like to eat?
2 Where *do* / *are* you going?
3 I *am* / – totally agree with you.
4 What *have* / *did* you done today?
5 I *am* / *do* not believe this.
6 She *is* / *are* learning the piano.
7 I *was* / *have* not seen her for two years.
8 They – / *are* went to America for their holiday.

LIVEWORKSHEETS