

# 77 Yes/No questions

## 1 Yes/No questions

Yes/No questions ask if something is true or not:

'Are you English?'

'Yes, I am.' / 'No, I'm not.'

'Was it expensive?'

'No, it wasn't very expensive.'

'Has the post arrived?'

'Yes, it came early today.'

In yes/no questions, we put the main verb *be*, an auxiliary or a modal verb BEFORE the subject:

- the main verb *be*

STATEMENT *It is cold outside.*

QUESTION *Is it cold outside?*

- auxiliary verbs *be*, *have* and *modal verbs*

STATEMENT *It is raining.*

*He has eaten.*

*Chelsea will win.*

*Laura can swim.*

QUESTION *Is it raining?*

*Has he eaten?*

*Will Chelsea win?*

*Can Laura swim?*

- the auxiliary verb *do/does* in the present simple, and *did* in the past simple

STATEMENT *Chris works here.*

*Chris worked here.*

QUESTION *Does Chris work here?*

*Did Chris work here?*

! We usually say yes/no questions with a rising intonation (↗): *Are you hungry?*

## 2 Short answers

We can answer yes/no questions with a short answer:

'Is it cold outside?' 'Yes, it **is**.'

'Have you eaten?' 'No, I **haven't**.'

'Can you watch films on it?' 'Yes, you **can**.'

'Does Natalie live here?' 'No, she **doesn't**.'

We can also say only yes/no or yes/no with other words:

'Is it the newest one in the shops?' 'No. / No, it's about a year old.'

'Is Max in the office yet?' 'Yes. / Yes, he **arrived** about ten minutes ago.'

! Don't use *I'm*, *she's*, *it's*, etc. in positive short answers:

Are you busy? ~~✓ Yes, I'm.~~

✓ Yes, I **am**.

Is she ready? ~~✓ Yes, she's.~~

✓ Yes, she **is**.

! Don't use the main verb in short answers:

Do you like classical music? ~~✓ Yes, I like.~~

✓ Yes, I **do**.

Does Marianne speak French? ~~✓ No, she doesn't speak.~~

✓ No, she **doesn't**.

## Practice

### 1 Match the questions 1–8 and short answers A–J.

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| 0 Is the office open on Saturdays?             | A No, they haven't. |
| 1 Have you got my email address?               | B Yes, it does.     |
| 2 Does this DVD player also record programmes? | C Yes, it will.     |
| 3 Are you going to join the film club?         | D No, you can't.    |
| 4 Were the police at the football match?       | E No, it isn't.     |
| 5 Have the tickets arrived yet?                | F No, we didn't.    |
| 6 Can I pay by credit card here?               | G Yes, I have.      |
| 7 Did you go to France by plane?               | H Yes, they were.   |
| 8 Will the weather be better tomorrow?         | I Yes, I am.        |

### 2 You want to buy a new phone. Make *yes/no* questions from the words below.

- |                                  |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 0 use I Internet can it the on ? | <i>Can I use the Internet on it?</i> |
| 1 number I my keep can phone ?   | .....                                |
| 2 it voice does messages store ? | .....                                |
| 3 has reviews it had good ?      | .....                                |
| 4 it use abroad I can ?          | .....                                |
| 5 got it video camera has a ?    | .....                                |
| 6 work immediately it will ?     | .....                                |

### 3 GRAMMAR IN USE Now complete this conversation with questions from Exercise 2.

Write the numbers of the questions.

- A Can you tell me a bit about this phone, please? (0) .....?
- B Yes, you can. You can add your number to the new SIM card.
- A Oh, good. (1) .....?
- B Yes, you can use it in most countries.
- A And (2) .....?
- B Yes, it does. It stores about forty messages.
- A That's good. (3) .....?
- B Yes, it's very easy to go online.
- A Wonderful! I'm not very good with new technology. (4) .....?
- B Yes, it will.
- A Good. (5) .....?
- B Yes, it has, you can make videos and send them to your friends.
- A And (6) .....?
- B Yes, it has, very good ones. There's one here, in *Which Phone* magazine.
- A Well, I think that's everything. Yes, I'll have one of those, please.



### 4 There are five more mistakes in the questions below. Find and correct them.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 0 <del>You went</del> <sup>Did you go?</sup> to the play at the school last week? | 3 'Did you enjoy the film?' 'Yes, I enjoyed.' |
| 1 Does Jane lives in the centre of town?  | 4 Came everyone to the party last weekend?    |
| 2 'Are you OK?' 'Yes, I'm. I'm fine.'   | 5 Did the students stayed with families?      |