

auxiliary verbs



- 1 I like cats, but my husband **doesn't**. 1.14
Sally's coming tonight, but Angela **isn't**.
- 2 A I loved his latest film.
B **So did I**.
A I haven't finished the book yet.
B **Neither (Nor) have I**.
Andrew's a doctor and **so is his wife**.
- 3 A I don't like shopping online.
B I **do**. I buy a lot of my clothes online.
- 4 A I went to a psychic yesterday.
B **Did you?**
A I'll make dinner tonight.
B **Will you?** That's great!
- 5 A You didn't lock the door!
B I **did** lock it; I know I **did**.
A Silvia isn't coming.
B She **is** coming. I've just spoken to her.
- 6 You won't forget, **will** you?
She can speak Italian, **can't** she?

- We use auxiliary verbs (*do, have, etc.*) or modal verbs (*can, must, etc.*):
- 1 to avoid repeating the main verb / verb phrase, e.g. **NOT** *I like cats, but my husband doesn't like cats.*
 - 2 with *so* and *neither* to say that someone or something is the same. Use *so* + auxiliary + subject to respond to a statement with a positive verb, and *neither* (or *nor*) + auxiliary + subject to respond to a statement with a negative verb.
- We use a positive auxiliary verb after *neither* (or *nor*), e.g. *Neither did I.* **NOT** *Neither didn't I.*
- 3 to respond to a statement and say that you (or someone or something) are different.
 - 4 to make 'reply questions'. These often show interest or surprise.
 - 5 to show emphasis in a positive sentence, often when you want to contradict what somebody says. With the present / past simple, we add *do / does / did* before the main verb. With other auxiliaries, e.g. *be, have, will*, the auxiliary verb is stressed and not contracted.
 - 6 to make question tags, we use a positive auxiliary with a negative verb, and a negative auxiliary with a positive verb.
- Question tags are often used simply to ask another person to agree with you, e.g. *It's a nice day, isn't it?* In this case, the question tag is said with falling intonation, i.e. the voice goes down.
 - Question tags can also be used to check something you think is true, e.g. *She's a painter, isn't she?* In this case, the question tag is said with rising intonation, as in a normal yes / no question.

a Complete the mini-conversations with an auxiliary or modal verb.

- A You didn't remember to buy coffee.
B I did remember. It's in the cupboard.
- 1 A He's booked the flights, _____ he?
B Yes, I think so.
- 2 A It's hot today, _____ it?
B Yes, it's boiling.
- 3 A Why don't you like classical music?
B I _____ like it, but it isn't my favourite.
- 4 A I wouldn't like to be a celebrity.
B Neither _____ I.
- 5 A Mike is arriving tomorrow!
B _____ he? I thought he was arriving today.
- 6 A What did you think of the film?
B Tom liked it, but I _____. I thought it was awful.
- 7 A Emma doesn't like me.
B She _____ like you. She just doesn't want to go out with you.
- 8 A Are you a vegetarian?
B Yes, I am, and so _____ my boyfriend.
- 9 A You'll remember to call me, _____ you?
B Yes, of course!
- 10 I really want to go to Egypt, but my boyfriend _____. He hates the heat.

b Complete the conversation with a suitable auxiliary verb.

- A You're Tom's sister, aren't you?
B Yes, I'm Carla.
- A It's a great club, ¹ _____ it?
B Well, it's OK. But I don't like the music much.
- A ² _____ you? I love it! I've never been here before.
B Neither ³ _____ I. I don't go clubbing very often.
- A Oh, ⁴ _____ you? I ⁵ _____. In fact, I usually go most weekends.
B ⁶ _____ you? I can't afford to go out every weekend.
- A I didn't see you at Tom's birthday party last Saturday. Why ⁷ _____ you go?
B I ⁸ _____ go, but I arrived really late because my car broke down.
- A Oh, that's why I didn't see you. I left early.
B I fancy a drink. I'm really thirsty after all that dancing.
A So ⁹ _____ I. Let's go to the bar.

