

## QUESTION TAGS

Question tags are used in spoken English, but not in written English. They are put at the end of the sentence.

To make a question tag, use the first auxiliary (forms of to be, have) or modal verb (must, can, will). If there isn't an auxiliary or modal verb, use do, does or did.

### Positive or negative

If the sentence is positive, the question tag must be negative.

They **left** yesterday afternoon, **didn't** they?    He **is** good at dancing, **isn't** he?  
She **was** surprised, **wasn't** she?

If the sentence is negative, the question tag must be positive.

They **didn't** leave yesterday, **did** they?    He **isn't** good at dancing, **is** he?  
She **wasn't** surprised, **was** she?

### Auxiliary verbs

They **haven't** met him before, **have** they? He **is** in the park, **isn't** he?  
They **are** studying at the moment, **aren't** they? They **were** in Paris last week, **weren't** they?

### Modal verbs

She **can** help him, **can't** she?    They **should** study for the test, **shouldn't** they?  
He **will** tell me, **won't** he?    It **can't** be true, **can** it?

### No auxiliary or modal verb

She **left** last Friday, **didn't** she?    He **works** in your company, **doesn't** he?  
You **don't know** him, **do** you?

### NOTE:

With I am you have to use "aren't I".  
I **am** the best, **aren't** I?

She **has** a brother, **hasn't** she? (possession) **BUT** Peter has a terrible cold, **doesn't** he? (idiomatically)

**There** is a new restaurant next to your company, **isn't there**?

**Let's** go to the shopping mall, **shall** we?

### Use the same auxiliary, modal verb or do, does or did to reply:

Your holidays **were** really relaxing, **weren't** they? Yes, they **were**. We really enjoyed them.  
She **visited** her aunt last week, **didn't** she? Yes, she **did**. She went to her last Saturday.  
You **couldn't** help him in the garden, **could** you? No, I **couldn't**. I had to work in the office.